SERVING VICTORIA'S FOOTBALL COMMUNITY

GOAL! WEEKLY

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VOL 1 NO 4 TEL/FAX: (03) 9645 1440 Email: goalweekly@yahoo.com P.O BOX 142 PORT MELBOURNE 3207

SOUTH GO TOP AS CANNONS DRAW

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16 ACTION PACKED PAGES!!!

Oakleigh Cannons' brief stay at the top of the Vodafone VPL ladder ended on the weekend after it drew 1-1 with Heidelberg United at Olympic Village on Saturday. South Melbourne now leads the pack as the early frontrunner after it defeated last year's champion, Bulleen Zebras, 1-0 on Monday night at the Veneto Club in front of a crowd of nearly 4000 fans.

PREMIER LEAGUE LATEST RESULTS

ROYALS 1
GEORGIES 0

'BERGERS 1
CANNONS 1

LIONS 1
CAVALIERS 1

GREENS 1
MAGIC 4

SAINTS 0
PINES 1

BLUES 3
KNIGHTS 1

ZEBRAS 0
SOUTH 1

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STATE LEAGUE ONE FIXTURE

Round One
1-4-05 Kingston City v Knox City 8.30pm, The Grange Reserve
1-4-05 Richmond v Dandenong 8.30pm, Kevin Bartlett Reserve
2-4-05 Nth Coburg v Western Suburbs 3.00pm, Reddish Reserve
2-4-05 Langwarrin v Brunswick City 3.00pm, Lawton Park Reserve
2-4-05 Westvale v Northcote City 3.00pm, McKechnie Reserve
3-4-05 Altona East v Port Melbourne 3.00pm, Paisley Park

Round Two
8-4-05 Port Melbourne v Nth Coburg 8.30pm, SS Anderson Reserve
9-4-05 Knox City v Altona East 3.00pm, RD Egan Lee Reserve
9-4-05 Brunswick City v Westvale 3.00pm, Dunstan Reserve
9-4-05 Dandenong v Langwarrin 3.00pm, George Andrews Reserve
10-4-05 Western Suburbs v Richmond 3.00pm, Ralph Reserve
10-4-05 Northcote City v Kingston City 3.00pm, John Cain Memorial Park

Round Three
15-4-05 Richmond v Port Melbourne 8.30pm
16-4-05 Nth Coburg v Knox City 3.00pm
16-4-05 Langwarrin v Western Suburbs 3.00pm
16-4-05 Westvale v Dandenong 3.00pm
16-4-05 Brunswick City v Northcote City 3.00pm
17-4-05 Altona East v Kingston City 3.00pm

Round Four
22-4-05 Port Melbourne v Langwarrin 8.30pm
22-4-05 Kingston City v North Coburg 8.30pm
23-4-05 Knox City v Richmond 3.00pm
23-4-05 Dandenong v Brunswick City 3.00pm
24-4-05 Western Suburbs v Westvale 3.00pm
24-4-05 Northcote City v Altona East 3.00pm

Round Five
29-4-05 Richmond v Kingston City 8.30pm
30-4-05 North Coburg v Altona East 3.00pm
30-4-05 Langwarrin v Knox City 3.00pm
30-4-05 Westvale v Port Melbourne 3.00pm
30-4-05 Brunswick City v Western Suburbs 3.00pm
30-4-05 Dandenong v Northcote City 3.00pm

Round Six
6-5-05 Port Melbourne v Brunswick City 8.30pm
7-5-05 Knox City v Westvale 3.00pm
8-5-05 Altona East v Richmond 3.00pm
8-5-05 Western Suburbs v Dandenong 3.00pm
8-5-05 Northcote City v Nth Coburg 3.00pm
9-5-05 Kingston CIty v Langwarrin 8.30pm

Round Seven
13-4-05 Richmond v Nth Coburg 8.30pm
14-5-05 Langwarrin v Altona East 3.00pm
14-5-05 Westvale v Kingston City 3.00pm
14-5-05 Brunswick City v Knox City 3.00pm
14-5-05 Dandenong v Port Melbourne 3.00pm
15-5-05 Western Suburbs v Northcote City 3.00pm

Round Eight
20-5-05 Port Melbourne v Western Suburbs 8.30pm
20-5-05 Kingston City v Brunswick City 8.30pm
21-5-05 Knox City v Dandenong 3.00pm
21-5-05 North Coburg v Langwarrin 3.00pm
22-5-05 Altona East v Westvale 3.00pm
22-5-05 Northcote City v Richmond 3.00pm

Round Nine
27-5-05 Port Melbourne v Northcote City 8.30pm
28-5-05 Langwarrin v Richmond 3.00pm
28-5-05 Westvale v North Coburg 3.00pm
28-5-05 Brunswick City v Altona East 3.00pm
28-5-05 Dandenong v Kingston City 3.00pm
29-5-05 Western Suburbs v Knox City 3.00pm

Round Ten
3-6-05 Kingston City v Western Suburbs 8.30pm
3-6-05 Richmond v Westvale 8.30pm
4-6-05 Knox City v Port Melbourne 3.00pm
4-6-05 Nth Coburg v Brunswick City 3.00pm
4-6-05 Langwarrin v Northcote City 3.00pm
5-6-05 Altona East v Dandenong 3.00pm

Round Eleven
10-6-05 Port Melbourne v Kingston City 8.30pm
11-6-05 Westvale v Langwarrin 3.00pm
11-6-05 Brunswick City v Richmond 3.00pm
11-6-05 Dandenong v Nth Coburg 3.00pm
12-6-05 Western Suburbs v Altona East 3.00pm
12-6-05 Northcote City v Knox City 3.00pm

Round Twelve
17-6-05 Port Melbourne v Altone East 8.30pm
18-6-05 Knox v Kingston 3.00pm
18-6-05 Brunswick City v Langwarrin 3.00pm
18-6-05 Dandenong v Richmond 3.00pm
19-6-05 Western Suburbs v Nth Coburg 3.00pm
19-6-05 Northcote City v Westvale 3.00pm

Round Thirteen
24-6-05 Richmond v Western Suburbs 8.30pm
25-6-05 Nth Coburg v Port Melbourne 3.00pm
25-6-05 Langwarrin v Dandenong 3.00pm
25-6-05 Westvale v Brunswick City 3.00pm
26-6-05 Altona East v Knox City 3.00pm
27-6-05 Kingston City v Northcote City 8.30pm

Round Fourteen
1-7-05 Kingston City v Altona East 8.30pm
1-7-05 Port Melbourne v Richmond 8.30pm
2-7-05 Knox City v Nth Coburg 3.00pm
2-7-05 Dandenong v Westvale 3.00pm
3-7-05 Western Suburbs v Langwarrin 3.00pm
3-7-05 Northcote City v Brunswick City 3.00pm

Round Fifteen
8-7-05 Richmond v Knox 8.30pm
9-7-05 Nth Coburg v Kingston 3.00pm
9-7-05 Langwarrin v Port Melbourne 3.00pm
9-7-05 Westvale v Western Suburbs 3.00pm
9-7-05 Brunswick City v Dandening 3.00pm
10-7-05 Altona East v Northcote City 3.00pm

Round Sixteen
15-7-05 Port Melbourne v Westvale 8.30pm
16-7-05 Knox City v Langwarrin 3.00pm
17-7-05 Western Suburbs v Brunswick City 3.00pm
17-7-05 Altona East v Nth Coburg
17-7-05 Northcote City v Dandenong 3.00pm
18-7-05 Kingston City v Richmond 8.30pm

Round Seventeen
22-7-05 Richmond v Altona East 8.30pm
23-7-05 Nth Coburg v Northcote City 3.00pm
23-7-05 Langwarrin v Kingston City 3.00pm
23-7-05 Westvale v Knox City 3.00pm
23-7-05 Brunswick v Port Melbourne 3.00pm
23-7-05 Dandenong v Western Suburbs 3.00pm

Round Eighteen
29-7-05 Port Melbourne v Dandenong 8.30pm
30-7-05 Knox City v Brunswick City 3.00pm
30-7-05 Nth Coburg v Richmond 3.00pm
31-7-05 Altona East v Langwarrin 3.00pm
31-7-05 Northcote City v Western Suburbs 3.00pm
1-8-05 Kingston City v Westvale 8.30pm

Round Nineteen
5-8-05 Richmond v Northcote 8.30pm
6-8-05 Langwarrin v Nth Coburg 3.00pm
6-8-05 Westvale v Altona East 3.00pm
6-8-05 Brunswick City v Kingston City 3.00pm
6-8-05 Dandenong v Knox City 3.00pm
7-8-05 Western Suburbs v Port Melbourne 3.00pm

Round Twenty
19-8-05 Kingston City v Dandenong 8.30pm
19-8-05 Richmond v Langwarrin 8.30pm
20-8-05 Knox City v Western Suburbs 3.00pm
20-8-05 Nth Coburg v Westvale 3.00pm
21-8-05 Altona East v Brunswick City 3.00pm
21-8-05 Northcote City v Port Melbourne 3.00pm

Round Twenty One
26-8-05 Port Melbourne v Knox City 8.30pm
27-8-05 Westvale v Richmond 3.00pm
27-8-05 Brunswick City v Nth Coburg 3.00pm
27-8-05 Dandenong v Altona East 3.00pm
28-8-05 Western Suburbs v Kingston City 3.00pm
28-8-05 Northcote v Langwarrin 3.00pm

Round Twenty Two
10-9-05 Knox City v Northcote City 3.00pm
10-9-05 Kingston City v Port Melbourne 3.00pm
10-9-05 Altona East v Western Suburbs 3.00pm
10-9-05 Nth Coburg v Dandenong 3.00pm
10-9-05 Richmond v Brunswick City 3.00pm
10-9-05 Langwarrin v Westvale 3.00pm

SOCCER HOTLINE

Eastern Lions SC Pre-SeasonTournament

Eastern Lions Soccer Club based at Sixth Ave.Burwood (Melways ref. page 60, J8) are hosting a pre-season tournament for seniors and reserves from the 6th to 19th March.
All are welcome as entry is free.

5th March

1pm Richmond v Northcote *Reserves*
3pm Eastern lions v Cranbourne *Reserves*
3pm Richmond v Northcote *Seniors*
5pm Eastern Lions v Cranbourne *Seniors*

12th March

1pm Cranbourne v Northcote *Reserves*
3pm Eastern Lions v Richmond *Reserves*
3pm Cranbourne v Northcote *Seniors*
5pm Eastern Lions v Richmond *Seniors*

19th March

1pm Richmond v Cranbourne *Reserves*
3pm Eastern Lions v Northcote *Reserves*
3pm Richmond v Cranbourne *Seniors*
5pm Eastern Lions v Northcote *Seniors*

Crazy John's Pre-Season Soccer Trophy

Crazy john's pre-season tournament action continued the past week with the last round of results finishing as follows:

Northcote 0 - 0 Westvale
Altona 1 - 0 Brunswick

Altona 1 - 0 Westvale
Port Melb 3 - 0 Western Suburbs

Group A	Pts
Port Melbourne	7
Suburbs	4
Stonnington	2
Dingley	0

Group B	Pts
Northcote	4
Brunswick	3
Altona	3
Westvale	1

Next round of fixtures:

Wednesday 2nd March
7:00pm Dingley v Stonnington
8:30pm Northcote v Brunswick City

Sunday 6th March
4:00pm 1st Semi Final TBA
6:00pm 2nd Semi Final TBA

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Has Women's Football Expanded Too Quickly?

It was just over four weeks ago that I first heard news that Port Melbourne Sharks WSC was on the verge of collapse with players leaving for other clubs and not enough coming in to fill those shoes. In fact even last season Port Melbourne had troubles and failed to compete in both reserve and seniors match on more than one occasion last season. The even withdrawal their senior team for the last round against Box Hill Inter.

It seems the toll of providing both a senior team and reserve team is hurting quite of lot of clubs in the Vodafone Premier League, even though it has now been introduced for two seasons. Has the women's leagues expended too quickly? The tale of lack of players not only hits the Premier League but all the way down the divisions. Not a year goes pass when a club folds over lack of players. Another problem has been the lack of quality coaches going around in some of the lower divisional teams. New girls that are introduced to the game quickly walk away as the game proves to be more frustrating than fun.

I can remember when Waverley Taipans (now Eastern Lions) terrorised the State League 3 just two seasons ago. Such was there skill that scores of 12-0 or more where common. After these matches the opposing team's players felt like shooting themselves rather than the feeling of enjoyment from a game of football! Seriously, why would you want to play again after getting thumped liked that! Walking bear foot on glass sounds more appealing. At least it doesn't last 90 minutes!

Hopefully the leagues can start to sort themselves in seasons to come so that the imbalanced in performance between clubs in their respective divisions won't result in lopsided result that can only detract from the interest for any new players wanting to join, and in the case of current players, wanting to leave and do something else.

For so long we have heard the great tales of popularly of women's football in recent years, but not of the many that have walked away as they have lost interest and enjoyment from playing the game. Competitive football brings out the best from players and clubs, not lopsided results.

There are clubs that are doing very well, in the case of Ashburton they will have four open age women's teams competing in 2005. But many lower divisional clubs struggle to even put 11 players together for a match. This needs to be looked at before the league even thinks of expanding any further.

It is a difficult task for the Victorian Soccer Federation but could the rate of expansion may have been too quick for all the clubs to handle.

By Steven Gray

Croxton Park Renamed Maribyrnong Greens

By Fedja Delalic & Steven Gray

State League 3 North West club Croxton Park will now be know as Maribyrnong Greens Soccer Club. This is after their first proposal of Melbourne Greens was rejected by the Victorian Soccer Federations as they now insist that team names reflect suburb or municipality they are based in.

This name change goes in had with the clubs location shift from their old venue in Northcote to Skinner Reserve in Braybrook just piror to the start of the 2004 season. It was too late at the time to lodge a club name change with the Victorian Soccer Federation.

The 2004 season was one they the club rejuvenated themselves after the disappointment of relegated in 2003. They completed the season in 4th position and were in running for promotion for the majority of the season.

Maribyrnong Greens next friendly:

Sat, 26th Feb 2004

North Sunshine - Maribyrnong Greens
Larissa Reserve, Larissa Rd, St Albans

Q&A With Ashburton's New President

You always hear that whilst a club may only participate in games for half a year the club itself never sleeps. In the case of Provisional League 2 South East club Ashburton, a new man, Con Prountzos, has came along to hold the position of president.

Con Prountzos gave his time for brief questions and answers look into the life as Ashburton's new president and his thoughts on the coming season.

As new President of Ashburton what are some of the priorities you have set for the coming season?
My priorities for the new season is to re-invigorate a team that felt the pain of relegation two years ago and just managed to hold on from it happening again last year. Promotion is our ultimate goal, and we have gained a few more experienced players as well as a few exciting young boys who are ready to take the next step in senior football. I also want to get the club out there and promote ourselves and the first way we are going to do that is by getting our website online. It will be online is approximately 1 week so look out for it, details will be given soon.

What do you believe are the strong points about the club?
The strong points of the Ashburton are definitely the mateship around the club, there were about ten new boys last year who had to blend in with the fifteen or so that remained from the previous year. It didn't take long for all the boys to be going out to pubs and clubs together (only after games) or just hang around and be very social around the club. This year we have added about six new players to majority which stayed from last year and that mateship seems to have already engulfed them as well. Another positive for our players is that there is no distinct ethnicity that the club is associated with. There are Australians, Greeks, Italians, Taiwanese, Lebanese, Scottish, English and I am sure others that i have left out but we are a club that is there for the community.

What teams in the Provisional League 2 South East will be the most competitive in 2005?
Provisional 2 South East this year will be highly competitive i believe, without a clear pack of three or four as was the case last year. This year i see the obvious sides of Dandenong Warriors and Mitcham defiantly contesting the title as well as the two teams that have dropped down from Provisional 1, Lyndale and Ringwood. Other teams to watch i believe would be Beaumaris which has a new coach who apparently is doing great things and White Star Dandenong who came up from Provisional 3 as third place getter and I believe will surprise everyone, they have a massive supporter base which can always push you over the line in a few games. Needless to say I hope and will endeavour to help as player and president (and last years captain) to push Ashburton to the dizzy heights of Promotion this year. It is something i think can be achieved with hard work and discipline and a little bit of luck never hurts.

By Steven Gray

GREENER RUMORED TO BE NEW VIS COACH

Ian Greener is rumored to be appointed as the next Director of Coaching at the Victorian Institute of Sport .
After many years of service with the VSF as Coaching and Development Manager, Greener will now return to the VIS to oversee the developement of elite youth players.

George Gogas

We are saddened to report that Heidelberg United SC player George Gogas tragically died over the weekend after being involved in a fatal car accident.

On behalf of Victoria's soccer community- we pass on our deepest condolences to the Gogas family and all associated at Heidelberg United Soccer Club.

SHORT PASSES

St Albans reports that Ivan Filipovic has suffered a rib injury and will most likely miss their next match.

Saints player Jason Bosnic will also be unavailable after receiving a knock on his ankle.

Jamie McMinimee of Frankston Pines looks set to return this week after missing the start of the season through injury.

Eastern Lions has appointed former Footscray JUST favourite, Joe Carroll, as its Head Coach for 2005.

North Coburg have announced the appointment of Brian McNicol as assistant coach to Terry Kirkhan for this season. Brian played over 300 NSL games for Morwell, Collingwood and Heidelberg.

North Coburg have also announced the appointment of former Bulleen Zebras player Paul Della Rocca as coach of the reserve team for the upcoming season. The club is also in the process of signing a couple of promising youngsters from the Albury Youth Academy on the recommendation of Academy Director, former Victorian Sheffield United star Dougie Hodgson

Melbourne Knights' Daniel Piorkowski looks like he has played his last game for the Somers Street outfit. After sustaining a slight groin injury at training last week, he will be unavailable to turn out in a red shirt for the forseeable future, as he is newly signed with Melbourne Victory and will have to undertake allegiance before the injury clears.

Also at Melbourne Knights, Nathan Caldwell is recovering from a slight ankle sprain and may possibly miss 1-2 weeks. Whilst Alex Kiratzoglou has a minor hamstring strain and awaits to see the extent of the injury before he can declare himself available for selection for Round 5.

"AS LONG AS ITS ROUND, WE DON'T CARE!"

GOAL! Weekly
is always on the look out for soccer stories, match reports, club events, news , views, photos, whatever.

If you want to share soccer stuff with the rest of us, then send it in, and we'll try and give it a plug.

Email: goalweekly@yahoo.com
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VODAFONE PREMIER LEAGUE DETAILS

ROUND FOUR DETAILS

ESSENDON ROYALS 2 – SUNSHINE GEORGIES 0
(HT 1-0)
Goals: M.Curcija, 70th min (ER)

Yellow Cards:
Red Cards: None.

ESSENDON line-up: .

SUNSHINE line-up: R.Brian, P.Spiteri (C.Greechan 75th), Z.Pajic, M.Pace, T.Antoniadis, D.Delic (P.Galea 75th), B.Gilmour, T.Waterson (S.Camilleri 86th), E.Muscat, M.Gasparis, T.Neceski..

Crowd: .

HEIDELBERG UNITED 1 – OAKLEIGH CANNONS 1
(HT 1-0)
Goals: V. Korcacevski, 25th min (HU), A.Kovacic, 80th min (OC).

Yellow Cards: B.Damianos (HU), A.Goutzoulis (HU), S.Pantelidis (HU), C.Boutsianis (HU), A.Kovacic (OC).
Red Cards: none.

HEIDELBERG line-up: L.Acevski, P.Roberts, I.Erdogan, F.De Amicis, T.Ouliaris, B.Damianos, V. Korcacevski (J. Tricarico 63rd) (E. Vassilliadou 85th), A.Goutzoulis, S.Pantelidis, R.Liparoti, C.Boutsianis (Y.Yusuf 76th).

OAKLIEGH line-up: S.Webster, N.Tolios, F.Rosman, C.Anthopoulos, A.Kovacic, S.Panopoulos, N.Marinos, J.Drossos (G.Tzouramanis 70th), A.Pelikan, X.Sulemani (B.Daglis 70th), J.Nilo.

Crowd: .

PRESTON LIONS 1 – GREEN GULLY CAVALIERS 1
(HT 0-1)
Goals: H.Velkovski, 33rd min (GG), J.Sapazovski, 57th min (PL).

Yellow Cards: R.Vargas (GG), D.Fak (GG), A.Vargas (GG), L.Anastasiou (PL), A.Magnacca (PL), P.Dimovski (PL).
Red Cards: none.

PRESTON line-up: D.Zilic, L.Anastasiou, Z.Younan, H.Vrbovac (J.Cvetanovski 46th), S.Pace, S.Oksuz (M.Miskas 86th), S.Manceski, A.Magnacca, J.Sapazovski (J.Dimoski 73rd), P.Siveski, P.Dimovski.

GREEN GULLY line-up: P.Schwalger, R.Vargas, D.Fak, Z.Markovski, J.Rajher, B.Vassallo, A.Kelic (M.Batinovic 71st), H.Velkovski (L.Lapsansky 62nd), D.Nastevski, A.Vargas, N.Tsaltas (N.Lazarevski 69th).

Crowd: .

ST ALBANS SAINTS 0 – FRANKSTON PINES 1
(HT 0-1)
Goals: S.Sivic, 44th min (FP).

Yellow Cards: I.Filipovic (SA), L.Bukic (SA).
Red Cards: none

ST ALBANS line-up: M.Vunderi, J.Suric, V.Buljubasic, M.Raspudic, I.Filipovic, I.Razov (I.Franic 60th), A.Deak (I.Dragicevic 60th), L.Bukic, P.Bossio, J.Bosnic (M.Alibeyi 23rd), M.Paleka.

FRANKSTON line-up: M.Sutalo, S.Sivic, T.Malcolm, N.Waite (C.Stewart 77th), Scott Webster (C.Elvin 78th), Simon Webster, C.Leopold, M.Durand (B.Ovcin 85th), L.Trebbia, W.Gilmour, C.Nicholas..

Crowd: .

BENTLEIGH GREENS 1 – ALTONA MAGIC 4
(HT 1-0)
Goals: M.Pena, 22nd min (BG), S.Mrkela, 67th (AM), S.Riddel, 46th, 73rd, 90th (AM).

Yellow Cards: V.Pittito (BG), A.Rojas (BG).
Red Cards: none.

BENTLEIGH line-up: C.Morales, V.Bontemps, M.Karas, M.Pena (J.Karanicolas 74th), T.Constantinou, V.Pittito (A.Mavros (80th), T.Psonis, I.Madeira, E.Papadopoulos, B.Cogger (J.Kotsovolos 60th), A.Rojas.

ALTONA line-up: M.John, S.Mrkela, C.Azzopardi, M.Stergiopoulos (G.Lozanovski 62nd), D.Mladenovic, A.Opazo (J.Dimitrievski 81st), S.Becvinovski, S.Riddel, K.Delev (I.Kolevski 67th), P.Cergovski, S.Bozinovski.

Crowd: .

FAWKNER / WHITTLESEA 3 – MELBOURNE KNIGHTS 1
(HT 1-0)
Goals: M.Tsiorlas, 3rd, 58th (FW), O.Ayache, 89th (FW), D.Matkovic, 62nd (MK).

Yellow Cards: T.Milardovic(MK), M.Matkovic (MK), A.Barisic (MK), A.Gjuni (MK).
Red Cards: .

FAWKNER line-up: S.Tilovski, F.Tramontana (M.Silic 80th), R.Stojcevski, J.Angelovski, C.Recchia, M.Bojevski, V.Lia (O.Ayache 68th), Z.Petrevski, M.Vazzochi, M.Tsiorlas (J.Markovski 89th), T.Sterjovski.

KNIGHTS line-up: A.Cagalj, N.Antic, D.Rocco (C.Emsovski 57th), I.Klarica, T.Milardovic, I.Gelemanovic (A.Kiratzoglou 57th), T.Razov, M.Matkovic (M.Jurijevic 88th), A.Barisic, A.Gjuni, D.Matkovic.

Crowd: .

2005 Mens Vodafone Premier League: Seniors

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
South Melbourne	4	3	1	0	4	1	10
Oakleigh Cannons	4	2	2	0	7	3	8
Altona Magic	4	2	1	1	8	5	7
Essendon Royals	4	2	1	1	5	3	7
Green Gully Cavs	4	2	1	1	4	3	7
Frankston Pines	4	2	0	2	6	4	6
Heidelberg United	4	1	3	0	4	2	6
Preston Lions	4	0	4	0	7	7	4
Fawkner-Whittlesea	4	1	1	2	5	6	4
Sunshine Georgies	4	1	1	2	5	6	4
Melbourne Knights	4	1	1	2	4	6	4
St. Albans Saints	4	1	0	3	1	4	3
Bentleigh Greens	4	1	0	3	3	11	3
Bulleen Zebras	4	0	2	2	3	5	2

GOAL! WEEKLY WISHES EACH TEAM THE VERY BEST FOR SEASON 2005

Weekend Weather Report

Trend for
Saturday, Sunday and Monday

Mainly fine and mild.
Low to mid 20's.

Under 21s Results - Round 4

Heidelberg United 3 Oakleigh Cannons 2
Bulleen Zebras 3 South Melbourne 1
Preston Lions 4 Green Gully Cavs 1
Essendon Royals 2 Sunshine Georgies 3
Fawkner-Whittlesea 5 Melbourne Knights 0
Bentleigh Greens 5 Altona Magic 4
St. Albans Saints 3 Frankston Pines 3

2005 Mens Vodafone Premier League: Under 21s

Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Sunshine Georgies	4	4	0	0	18	6	12
Fawkner-Whittlesea	4	4	0	0	11	2	12
Bentleigh Greens	4	3	0	1	11	12	9
Frankston Pines	4	2	1	1	12	7	7
South Melbourne	4	2	1	1	6	6	7
Altona Magic	4	2	0	2	10	8	6
Bulleen Zebras	4	2	0	2	7	5	6
Melbourne Knights	4	2	0	2	8	11	6
St. Albans Saints	4	1	2	1	8	10	5
Oakleigh Cannons	4	1	0	3	6	8	3
Preston Lions	4	1	0	3	6	10	3
Heidelberg United	4	1	0	3	5	10	3
Green Gully Cavs	4	1	0	3	6	14	3
Essendon Royals	4	0	0	4	5	10	0

BULLEEN ZEBRAS 0 – SOUTH MELBOURNE 1
(HT 0-1)
Goals: S.Macnicol, 23rd min (SM).

Yellow Cards: R.Ollerton (BZ), Z.Atanasovski (BZ), P.Kakos (BZ), M.Mazzini (BZ), C.Blatsis (SM), V.Natsioulas (SM), R.Dinse (SM).
Red Cards: R.Dinse (SM).

BULLEEN line-up: M.Theoklitis, R.Ollerton, S.Drakos, R.Antoniadis, J.Kozic (A.Drakos 86th), B.Celeski, D.Guglielmi, Z.Atanasovski (M.Mazzini 60th), R.Diaco, S.Martin, D.Vucinic (P.Kakos 40th).

SOUTH line-up: D.Anastasiadis, A.Tsonis, C.Blatsis, E.Karavitis (P.Koutsoupias 86th), V.Coveny, V.Natsioulas (G.Tzirtis 78th), A.Tzirtsakis, K.Salapasidis, R.Dinse, R.Tavsancioglu, S.Macnicol.

Crowd: 4000

LEADING GOALSCORERS

3 Goals
Stuart Riddel (AM)

2 Goals
Juan Nilo (OC)
Tony Neceski (SGC)
Nick Tsaltas (GG)
Anthony Pelikan (OC)
Steve Manceski (PL)

ROUND FIVE FIXTURES

Fri, 4th March

Oakleigh Cannons vs South Melbourne
Jack Edwards Reserve, Oakleigh, Mel:69-H9
Kick-Off: 8.15pm

Sat, 5th March

Altona Magic vs Heidelberg United
Paisley Reserve, Altona
Mel: 55-C5
Kick Off: 7:30pm

Sunshine Georgies vs Fawkner/Whittlesea
Chaplin Reserve, Sunshine
Mel: 26-G12
Kick Off: 6:00pm

Sunday, 6th March

Melbourne Knights vs Bentleigh Greens
Knights Stadium, North Sunshine
Mel: 27-A6
Kick Off: 5:00pm

Green Gully Cavaliers vs Essendon Royals
Green Gully Reserve, Keilor Downs
Mel:14-E8
Kick Off: 6:00pm

Preston Lions vs St Albans Saints
BT Connor Reserve, Reservoir
Mel:18-B2
Kick Off: 5:00pm

Mon, 7th March, 8.15pm

Bulleen Zebras vs Frankston Pines
Veneto Social Club, Bulleen Mel:32-D9

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VPL MATCH REPORTS

Pines Give Saints a Reality Check

St Albans Saints 0
Frankston Pines 1

St. Albans Saints crash back to earth after last weeks upset win over the highly fancied Cavaliers, suffering 0-1home defeat to San Websters Frankston Pines.
Stan Webster made two changes to the Pines line up this week prompted by their first loss to South last week. Young Sevir Sivic (ex VIS) & Mathew Durand (ex Endevour United) were included in the starting line up. The duo's inclusion proved to be the difference between the two sides, as both were instrumental in the only goal of the match.

Both sides failed to inspire in the first half, with feeble attempts on goal by both sides. The Saints were reliant on Ante Deak for any purposeful drive, whilst Frankston's avenue to goal was depended on Nick Waite laying off ball's to his on coming midfield who would falter on their final delivery.

Two minutes before the end of the first half an errant pass by the Saint's back-line landed at the feet of Frankston's Webster, who quickly switched play to Nick Wait. Waits neat flick found Mathew Durand, who sent a deep back post cross which was volleyed home sweetly from close range by the unattended Sevic.

The home teams best chance to equalize was in the 50th minute when Buhic beat the Frankston's offside trap driving a shot which was well blocked by the oncoming Pines keeper Marko Sutalo. The Pines dominated from then, and were unlucky not to extend their lead in the 57th minute when Saints keeper Marijan Vunderi was forced to make a one on one save. The Saints custodian was called into action again one minute later parrying a close range shot from Nick Wait. The Pines kept searching for their second, and were denied again the 65th minute when a header was cleared off the line by the Saints defence.

The Saints pressed home in the last five minutes creating several half chances, with the hard working Paleka hitting the side netting in injury time. It was to no avail, Frankston deservedly held on for 1-0 victory, and were unlucky to not win by a bigger margin in front of ~700 fans, most of them being disgruntled Saints supporters.

By Bruno Zovko

Royal Victory

Essendon Royals 2
Sunshine Georgies 0

On a cool Friday night the clash between the Essendon royals and the Sunshine Georgies was a fairly flat and timid affair with neither side showing any great form.

Essendon were on top for most of the first half and although early on not carving out many chances they always looked the more polished and more tactically aware team and the team most likely to score.

Sunshine were managing to get to the final third but then their last ball to the strikers was either misplaced or overhit and some situations which promised something often delivered little.

Just prior to the interval the Essendon Royals took the lead with a slick move that left the onrushing royals player with just Robert Brian to beat which he did and 1-0 at half time was a fair indication of the flow of the game.

The second half sunshine showed some early promise with chances to Gasparis and Delic but Essendon was able to keep the Georgies at arms length and were never seriously threatened. Essendon did look dangerous when coming forward. They were duly rewarded with a second goal when a cross floated in from the far side of Anderson reserve was met by a flying Michael Curcija who made no mistake 2-0 and there was no way back and the final score Essendon 2 Sunshine 0.

All in all a dull and quite mundane game with neither club particularly setting the world alight but Essendon were just that little bit better and their coaching staff can take something out of this game. Chris Taylor and his squad will have to have a long look at themselves as this was the worst the Georgies have played in a long time.

This coming round 5 the Royals have a tough game away to the Green Gully Cavaliers whilst Sunshine Georgies welcome the Fawkner Blues to Chaplin Reserve.

By Reuben Schembri

South Go Top

Bulleen Zebras 0
South Melbourne 1

South Melbourne has gone top of the Vodafone Premier League ladder after defeating reigning champions, Bulleen Zebras, 1-0 at the Veneto Club on Monday night.

Considering South was forced to put together virtually a completely new squad after it had to adjust to life after the old NSL and being inactive for such an extended period of time, it's not such a bad effort from John Anastasiadis' team, which was also involved in a less than convincing pre-season build up.

The last day of summer produced a fabulously balmy February night perfect for playing football. A crowd of close to 4000 turned out to witness an evenly contested match by two teams that are ironically experiencing two completely contrasting starts to their respective VPL campaigns.

This particular victory allowed South to take full advantage of this weekend's other fixtures, whilst Bulleen now finds itself in unfamiliar territory at the foot of the standings and as yet without a win to its credit so far this season.

South Melbourne midfielder, Scot MacNicol, scored the only goal of the match midway through the first-half after running on to a lovely through ball played by teamate, Kosta Salapasidis, that split the Zebras' defence and allowed McNicol to nip the ball over the oncoming Bulleen goalkeeper, Michael Theoklitos and into an empty net.

In the second half South defender Ryan Dinse was given his marching orders after a second bookable offence, forcing his side to play out the match with ten men and hang on for victory.

As much as Bulleen tried to take advantage of the extra man , it couldn't find a way past a solid South defence - having a couple of nervous goalmouth scrambles cleared, a header shave the top of the crossbar and audacious overhead lob by Zebras Billy Celevski which narrowly flash past the far post.

It's still early days yet, but one can't help to look forward to round 5 now and the prospect of next Friday night's game between Oakleigh Cannons and South Melbourne - being the first of many mouth watering top of the table clashes for season 2005.

Bulleen on the other hand, now travel to St Albans next Sunday and a venue that doesn't do many away teams any favours.

More Magic By Altona

Bentleigh Greens 1
Altona Magic 4

Altona Magic defeated Bentleigh Greens by a margin of 4-1 at the Kingston Heath Complex in Cheltenham on Sunday

Unfortunately for the the Greens this is the second time this season it has been on the wrong end of a four goal result at home and has perhaps already begun to bring unwanted pressure on coach Mick Kupinic's team at this early stage of the championship race.

The Greens started well enough in this game by actually opening the scoring in the 27th minute when Psonis gave an excellent pass to Pena who masterfully put it past Magic goalkeeper, Martin John.
Looking fairly organised and managing to go into the break 1-0 up, the Greens probably fancied they could deliver another result similar to the one achieved against Bulleen in round two. However, within minutes of the start of the second-half Altona got the break they were looking for after being awarded a free-kick which Altona's Stuart Riddel put past Green's goalkeeper, Morales after a deflection changed the direction of the ball into the net.

Shortly thereafter, the Greens lost their way and dropped their heads, allowing Altona to take control of the match and extend its lead.
Mrkela made it 1 - 2 in the 67th minute whilst Riddel then popped up again to score in the 72th minute making it 1 - 3.

Riddel then had the honour of completing the first hat-trick of the new season by scoring yet again in injury time, giving Altona a comprehensive 1 - 4 victory.

Next Sunday the Greens are off to Somers Street to play the Melbourne Knights, whilst Altona Magic entertain Heidelberg United in what promises to be another interesting encounter.

By Pano Stavrou

Lions Draw Again

Preston Lions 1
Green Gully 1

It just doesn't get much better than watching cut-throat Vodafone Premier League football in charming Melbourne weather on a Sunday evening.

Nearly 3,000 Melbournians agreed, as the Lions and the Cavaliers shared the points at BT Connor Reserve.

To use a cliche, it was much a game of two halves, the visiting Green Gully scored through Henry Velkovski's long range effort from 20 odd yards on the half hour, also, Joey Rajher and Andy Vargas hit the woodwork in the first half.
At the other end, custodian Pasi Schwalger, returning to play against his former club, was evidently determined prove a point.

In the second half, Preston a goal down, took the match to Green Gully who appeared to have closed shop. Schwalger was called upon to save a few chances, before Johnny Sapasovski headed in from close range from a Preston corner kick on the hour.

From that point onwards, it was mostly one-way traffic for Preston, until the final ten minutes where it was frantic end to end action for both teams, either of which could have stolen the three points from the other. A draw was a fair result.

The result keeps Gully within one point of league leaders Oakleigh, with South Melbourne to play away to Bulleen tommorow night.

For Preston it was their fourth consecutive draw this season, and somewhat surprisingly supporters have begun to pressure their coach for a win.
A large banner behind one of the goals read "Enough is enough, coach out..."

Blues Start To Climb

Fawkner/Whittlesea 3
Melbourne Knights 1

Fawkner/Whittlesea recorded its first win of the new season by accounting for the Melbourne Knights 3-1 at Epping Stadium on Monday night.

The result has lifted the Blues off the bottom of the ladder and helped it jump five places to ninth position in the VPL standings. The match started brightly for Fawkner as it went ahead after only three minutes through Mark Tsiorlas. Better was yet to come as Tsiorlas againgot on the score sheet and increased Fawkners lead to 2-0 in the 58th minute. The Knights slightly recovered from the early setbacks to respond with a goal from Dario Matkovic in the 60th minute. However as the Knights went in search of an equaliser the Blues sealed their first maximum points of the season after delivering a knockout punch with a third goal in the 89th minute by Omar Ayache to run out convincing winners by three goals to one.

Points Shared

Heidelberg United 1
Oakleigh Cannons 1

Heidelberg United and Oakleigh Cannons shared the spoils of a 1-1 draw at Olympic Village on Sunday.

In an entertaining match played in front of a healthy crowd of approximately 3000 spectatators, Heidelberg dominated for most of the afternoon but could not convert its supremacy into goals. Heidelberg could have easily gone into the break with more than the solitary goal it had to show for its efforts.

The goal coming in the 25th minute through Veton Korkarevski.

As the match wore on the Cannons slowly but surely got themselves back into the picture and salvaged an unlikely point when Antun Kovacic popped up to lob a header over 'keeper Lupce Acevski and score from a well worked free kick ten minutes from time.

The goal capped off a disappointing last period of the match for the 'bergers as during that time it lost scorer Korkarevski through injury and his replacement Joe Tricarico, who shortly after coming on was knocked unconscious and taken to hospital by ambulance.

The result did neither team any favours as the Cannons surrendered its lead at the top of the VPL ladder whilst Heidelberg would view this match as letting two points slip after looking the goods for so long.

Heidelberg's goal scorer Veton Koncarevski

Frankston Pines match winner Semir Sivic

FROM THE DUGOUT...

Ken Murphy (Altona Magic): "Obviously a good result for us but it was a lot more difficult than what the result suggests. They were well organised and disciplined, keeping the defence very tight. They caught us on the break and were leading 1-0 at half time. We were under a little bit of pressure, showed a little bit of nerves but managed to do well by scoring early in the second half and went on from there. The end result was fantastic."

Mick Kupinic (Bentleigh): "Contrary to what the scoreline suggests we managed to frustrate Altona even to the point of scoring first early on in the game. We knew they would come at us at 100 miles an hour in the second half and we were hoping to weather whatever they threw at us. Unfortunately they got a deflected early goal which opened the gates for them and our heads dropped."

Stan Webster (Frankston): "I was delighted to get a result. It's always a difficult place to win at St Albans and that was the first time we have won there in three seasons in the Premier League. Just look what happened to Green Gully the previous week! It was a great three points for us but we had to hold on in the last fifteen minutes when they really came at us and the heat was taking its toll."

Zoran Trajevski (Preston): "Very happy with our performance because we are trying to attack and play good soccer. I think we played better than them, especially in the second-half. Even though this is our fourth draw from four games, it may look like we're defending, but, we're definately always looking to attack. We may not be winning just yet, but at least we're not losing either."

Srecko Barisic (St Albans): "I'm very disappointed with our performance. We had a couple of chances but I don't think we showed much quality. I think my boys were a little bit scared to get physical with Frankston Pines who normally play a tough game. It was unfortunate we couldn't follow up the great win from last week."

Michael Michalakopoulos (Essendon): "I knew it was going to be a tough game, coming up against Chris Taylor and Sunshine who were promoted from the State League Div. 1 It was a battle from the beginning, in the first twenty minutes they had the better of us until we got into the game and kept it tight at the back. Eventually we overran them and managed to score from a couple of chances. I was very happy with the outcome."

Michael Chatzitrifonas (Pictured) (Oakleigh): "Overall I'm more than happy with a point. I thought that Heidelberg were certainly up for the game. They looked far more desperate and committed in the first-half than us. I changed a couple of things at half-time to help our cause, but I wasn't really happy with my teams performance today. Having said that, I don't think many teams will be able to come to Heidelberg this year and come away with a point."

Chris Taylor (Sunshine): "I thought we started off well for the first half hour and probably dominated the bulk of the game in terms of possession. Unfortunately, possession doesn't win you games. I felt we deserved something out of the match but to Essendon's credit they were a little bit more clinical in the forward line than we were, and defended a hell of a lot better than us. Really, that's what the game is all about."

Ian Dobson (Green Gully): "It was a very competitive game with some very good football played. I think all up a draw was a fair result even though we hit the woodwork twice and created another three very good chances in the last fifteen minutes. Preston are no slouches, they'll give lots of teams a lot of problems this year. In respect to my team, I was reasonably happy with the performance even though we didn't get the three points."

Peter Ollerton (Bulleen): "Unavailable for comment."

John Markovski (Fawkner): "It was a good performance and pleasing to get our first win of the year. We played really well and fought really hard. I'm happy for the lads, they got the result they deserved."

Zlatko Vego (Knights): "It was a very bad night. It was one of those games we must forget and put behind us. We were in shock after receiving a very early goal. It's a young team and we have to learn from our mistakes, we need to learn quickly and grow up overnight. I thought we played better in the second half and managed to get a goal back, but after that we opened up and let Fawkner back into the game to score their third."

John Anastasiadis (South Melb): "Unavailable for comment."

Phil Stubbins (Heidelberg): "It was a good entertaining game, just disappointingly for ourselves it was definately a game that should have been won and three points claimed. Overall, I think we were the better team on the day, but the longer the game went on and when you are playing a good side such as Oakleigh, they are always capable of nicking one - which is exactly what happened. Definately two points lost at home."

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OAKLEIGH

Back row, left to right: Nick Tolios, George Goutzioulis
Xhezair Sule

Front row, left to right: Juan Nilo, Stuart Webster, Ji

E K L Y 2005

C A N N O N S

ulis, Con Anthopoulos, Felix Rosman, Antun Kovacic,
Sulemani
Jim Drossos, Anthony Pelikan, Steve Panopoulos

Vodafone Women's Premier League Preview

By Niki Cook

The new Victorian Women's Premier League season is less than two weeks away, and this year the competition has seen a few changes. A significantly earlier kick-off date and the introduction of two regional teams, taking the league size to twelve, are changes that should make for an even more fiercely contested and exciting VWPL competition.

The top four teams from last season all look set to be competitive again this year. Box Hill Inter, winner of the inaugural VWPL Grand Final, will be looking to add a third consecutive title to its list of honours. Inter finished second overall in the home and away season, but stepped up in the Grand Final to defeat Cranbourne Comets and take the title. Inter has suffered just three defeats in the past two seasons, and has scored more than eighty goals in each of those years, demonstrating the strength of its attacking power.

Cranbourne Comets finished as minor premier in 2004, a point ahead of Inter. The season marked a return to form by the 2002 Premiers, as its third-placed finish in 2003 was something of a disappointment for this perennial powerhouse of women's football. Last season's statistics highlight the Comets' strengths: with 81 goals scored and just fifteen conceded, Cranbourne is a team that is as frugal in defence as it is devastating in attack. Cranbourne's consistent strength was underlined last weekend, when it was victorious in Eastern Lions' pre-season tournament, without losing a single game.

Keilor Park finished third last season, another strong performance after a club high finish of second in 2003. Its season got off to a shaky start with a shock loss to Preston in Round 1, but Keilor bounced back swiftly, and lost just two more games for the rest of the year. As ever, Keilor's performances were high-scoring affairs, but it also proved itself more than capable defensively, conceding just eighteen goals overall. With a number of personnel changes over the off-season, Keilor will be a changed side in 2005, but no doubt still in the running come the end of the season.

Ashburton was the real surprise package of the 2004 season, having jumped into the VWPL directly from Division 2. After an indifferent start to the season, it hit a rich vein of form midway through, and carried it through to secure a finals berth. Ashburton also proved itself capable of competing with some of the league's most established sides, following a draw with Box Hill with victory over Cranbourne in successive weeks. With a season of top-flight football under its belt, Ashburton should be even better equipped to deal with the rigours of the VWPL this year.

2004 Womens Premier League - Seniors

Position Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
1. Cranbourne Comets WSC	18	15	0	3	81	15	45
2. Box Hill Inter WSC	18	14	2	2	87	23	44
3. Keilor Park WSC	18	14	1	3	71	18	43
4. Ashburton WSC	18	10	3	5	65	33	33
5. South Melbourne WSC	18	9	0	9	49	39	27
6. Eltham North WSC	18	7	2	9	23	35	23
7. Port Melbourne Sharks WSC	18	6	3	9	38	36	21
8. Heidelberg United WSC	18	4	2	12	26	44	14
9. Preston Lions WSC	18	4	1	13	19	76	13
10. Whittlesea Stallions WSC	18	0	0	18	2	142	0

2004 Womens Premier League - Reserves

Position Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
1. Cranbourne Comets WSC	18	15	3	0	68	4	48
2. Port Melbourne Sharks WSC	18	11	5	2	49	14	38
3. Keilor Park WSC	18	11	4	3	80	14	37
4. South Melbourne WSC	18	9	6	3	53	15	33
5. Eltham North WSC	18	10	2	6	30	13	32
6. Ashburton WSC	18	8	3	7	30	29	27
7. Box Hill Inter WSC	18	6	2	10	31	34	20
8. Preston Lions WSC	18	3	0	15	12	75	9
9. Heidelberg United WSC	18	2	1	15	13	73	7
10. Whittlesea Stallions WSC	18	2	0	16	13	108	6

Box Hill Inter SC Womens Premier League Champions 2004

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FOOTBALL; A CODE DIVIDED

By Talia Cerritelli

January the 1st 2005 is a date certain to go down in history, marking one of the most symbolic developments that 'soccer' in Australia has conquered thus far; the changing of a name!

The Football Federation of Australia (FFA), as it is now known, celebrates the Australian Soccer Associations bold move to reclaim ownership of the 'Football' title; a title that represents the only true international football code the world over, but one we in Australia have misguidedly known as 'soccer' for so long.

Now it seems the Victorian Soccer Federation (VSF) is likely to cement itself a place in the history books alongside the FFA, when its constituent members meet on March 10th to decide whether or not to follow in the national body's footsteps; embarking on a new era that FFA chairman Frank Lowy describes as "the journey away from 'old soccer' and into 'new football'."

So, as the sports Victorian authority awaits an almost certain outcome that will soon see itself referred to as the 'Football Federation of Victoria;' you may well be asking - what's in a name?

The word 'soccer' is a derivative of 'Association Football;' a term given to the round ball code during the formation of the Football Association in England in 1863, in order to distinguish it from another version of football developed at that time. By using the 2nd syllable of the word "Association" and adding the prefix "er," the word "soccer" came into play. The word "football" however became more commonly used, for the obvious reason that it was more descriptive of the game; a game that involves a ball, kicked with a foot – 'football'.

Two centuries later and the name 'football' has come to represent the game officially for more then 200 countries now affiliated with FIFA; the sport's world governing body.

The term 'soccer' however is still used to describe football in a small number of English speaking nations, to differentiate it from rival codes of the game that have all become encapsulated under the 'football' umbrella; specifically Australia, Canada, Ireland, South Africa, and New Zealand.

In Australia alone the term 'football' has become a generic tag that brands the likes of Aussie Rules, Rugby League and Rugby Union. Add to this the recent inclusion of 'soccer' and hence the problems seem to begin.

Because so many of these codes use the term 'football' exclusively for their own, one would think it quite a difficult task to discern what someone is referring to when they say 'football'. The reality though is somewhat more reassuring, as the term has long been used interchangeably to cover both Australian Rules and Rugby codes, without raising concerns for ambiguity or inviting conflict.

Across the country the dominant code in each state has come to be known as 'football'. The reason little ambiguity is seen to arise is that the sports are most commonly referred to as League (Sydney and Brisbane), and Union (Auckland), whilst AFL or Aussie Rules is mainly only referred to as 'football' in Victoria and South Australia. Amongst followers of the sport everywhere else, football is known as Aussie Rules!

"Right at the moment we're in a country of 20 million people, we're the only country with four dynamic football codes. Soccer's at the back end," exclaimed John O'Neill last year as Soccer Association chief executive.

It is the original football code, the most dominant across the world, the largest participation sport, yet for too long now it has been robbed of its true identity.

And if 'old soccer' is at the back end, then 'new football' will most certainly be on the rise; taking back its name and setting the future of Australian Football on the right track.

"The change in our corporate name is another part of the ongoing process of repositioning the game in Australia," according to Lowy.

"We feel that it is important to make this symbolic change and to bring the 'World Game' in Australia into line with the rest of the 'Football World'."

Many have contested that the name change from 'soccer' to 'football' is 'un-Australian.' This is mainly due to the misguided perception that we are adopting an 'English' usage in preference to an 'Australian' one; that the beauty of our culture is in its being unique and that the FFA is out of touch with Australians.

The irony here is obvious in the fact that the term 'soccer' was coined from a British phrase originally, though it has been argued that the term has since become inbred in our national culture.

But doesn't the suggestion that the FFA is out of touch with Australians by the same token imply that we as Australians are out of touch with the rest of the world (in reference to the game as soccer); and after all, it is the 'World Game' isn't it?

In any event, the change is not something Australian soccer officials are pushing to happen overnight, and they are able to appreciate the cultural significance of the 'Socceroos' label as the national team's nickname.

"We are one of the few countries that call its national team by a nickname," Lowy said.

"It has been commonly used and is a much loved name but we may see it fade out as evolution takes place."

It seems 'evolution' is already here!

Already media agencies SMH, SBS, ABC and Fox Sports have adopted the change, and it seems most likely that the VSF will be the next to aid in the designation of the sport from soccer to football.

VSF chief executive, Tony Pignata, insists the organization is set to follow suit and help realize the FFA's ambition to cement the future of Australian football in the world arena.

"I've been pushing for this for a while now," he said.

"Western Australia and the Northern Territory have already made the change… Victoria is the next cab off the rank."

"Most of the feedback has been positive and hopefully it will get voted in."

If the move does go ahead for the VSF, Pignata insists that there won't be any need for conflict with AFL body 'Football Victoria' which runs the VFL.

"There is room for both codes," says Pignata.

"Our game is known as Football worldwide and it is time we adopted it in Australia."

"We want to be known as the Football Federation of Victoria; we want to be part of the world game; we want to qualify for the World Cup!"

And there it is; the ultimate test in the journey towards 'new football' and the alignment of our country with the masses of the 'World Game,' will no doubt lie in the qualification of footballs most prestigious worldwide competition; the World Cup!

Identifying 'soccer' as 'football' may conjure up a certain Neil Armstrong 'one small step for man, one giant leap for mankind' cliché, but it's not far off.

So as we begin to travel the road to 'World Football,' take a look at the bigger picture before falling victim to the 'can't support the game because I don't like the name' syndrome.

Yes; perhaps it will take a few generations for Australians to readily identify soccer as football, but whilst antagonists continue to question whether we truly believe that in a few years time kids will pick up a round ball rather then an oval one when asked to have a kick of the 'footy' down at the park; the truth is that it doesn't really matter.

They can have their 'footy'- we have our 'football'!

BOO'S WORLD

A Satirical Look at the World of Football According to Mark Boric

Well the big game this week will see Oakleigh host South Melbourne. Hopefully Oakleigh will have the tree that has fallen over in the North West corner of the ground cleared to make room for the anticipated big crowd. The tree, which has long meant anyone taller than Verne Troyer, (or Herve Villachon for the older folk) has had to duck down or do the limbo on their way to the bench wing, seems to have toppled over after recent storms.

Read with interest last week's Krncevic's Korner and the glowing recommendation of Ping Eatery and Bar. I myself last Wednesday dined at the Richmond Alemannia clubrooms and can report that the chicken schnitzel was very good, as was the ambience provided by fellow diners enjoying a crystal clear reception of the VSF Soccer Show on Channel 31.

I myself am very pro "cash for comments". And I'm not just saying that because I've been imbibing some Top Drop Liquor. The lovely chicken I feasted on last week was probably one of La Ionica's finest. It's a great shame cigarette sponsorship was banned for everything but the Grand Prix, or else we could still have the Winfield State Leagues. I use Mirabella light globes. As soon as the boffins find a way to increase rainfall in summer allowing the VSF to re-introduce the pre-season Cups, I hope they will bring back the Ampol Cup first. I'm going to give Crazy John's a call and see if they can hook me up with some quality Vodafone gear. I really love the Qantas and LG Socceroos. I'm looking forward to the Hyundai A League, but have fond memories of the Phillips League, Coca-Cola NSL and Ericsson Cup. Healthy Diet - I tried it!

Now I've written a few corny lines in my time, but the next person who jokingly mistakes the smoking marine signal flares as released by some soccer fans at games with the fashion tragedies of the 70's will die. I won't say how, I've given the prosecutors enough evidence for motive already, but it will happen.

Pre-season friendlies are under way, but I've heard some are not as "friendly" as they should be with some games being abandoned due to disturbances. Why do people get so worked up in these meaningless matches?

Fixtures for the real stuff in the State Leagues should be out this week. Some would say they are a little late, but I reckon it's the Premier League clubs who are dragging their heels, with no coaches sacked after three rounds.

I don't know if the letters in "Terrace Talk" in the last edition were edited, but that Richard of Greenvale can whinge to a high standard. And why was he allowed to bag the VSF and the Tianjin game? That's my job!

"From the Dugout..." is another interesting page. Try reading between the lines and working out which teams will be doing endless running for punishment. "Unavailable for comment" is an ominous sign, too.

I think I've plugged enough stuff this week. If I don't get any freebies out of that you can expect a bit more venom next time.

SOCCER NOTICEBOARD

The St Albans Saints SC is seeking new Junior players for its Under 11 to Under 18 Boys' teams and Under 16 Girls' team. A couple of junior coaching positions are also available.
For further information please telephone 9367 2001 and ask for Stan Konjevic.

Barwon Soccer Club seeks Geelong players for their Under 16 boys team. Please contact Coach James Muir on 03 52412495 or e-mail jr_muir@yahoo.co.uk jmu41230@bigpond.net.au

Under 15's Super League players wanted at Fawkner. Please contact Memet (team manager) on 0422607457.

The Red Devils and the Ballarat & District Soccer Association require a qualified coach for the U18 team for this season in the North/West competition. For all enquiries please call Tony Spurgo on 0412 358 439 or Neville Keen on (03) 5345 2750.

FOOTBALL QUIZ

1)What are the colours of North Caulfield SC?

2)VPL side St Albans is otherwise known as "The _____"?

3)In which year did the now defunct NSL actually commence?

4)Who was the Hungarian legend who coached South Melbourne to much success in the early 90's ?

5)Who has been appointed coach of the newly formed Melbourne Victory?

6)Can a goal be scored direct from a throw-in?
7)Which two teams finished in the relegation positions in last years VPL?

8) Which team won the Women's Premier League in 2004?

9)Victorian superstar Mark Viduka plays for which UK club?

10)Australian national team coach Frank Farina was born in which city?

Answers on page 14

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AUSSIES ABROAD

ENGLISH CARLING CUP FINAL
Date: 27-02-05
Qantas Socceroo Harry Kewell was replaced in the 56th minute, as Liverpool lost 3-2 after extra time, after scores were locked at 1-1 at full time.

ENGLISH PREMIERSHIP
Date: 27-02-05
Qantas Socceroo Mark Schwarzer (gk) (knee injury) was not included in the Middlesbrough squad that drew 2-2 at home with Charlton Athletic.
Date: 26-02-05
Qantas Socceroo Tim Cahill was replaced in the 90th minute, but not before scoring in the 48th minute and setting up two goals, as Everton won 3-1 away at Aston Villa.
Qantas Socceroo Tony Popovic was again not in the Crystal Palace squad that won 2-0 at home against Birmingham City. For Birmingham, Qantas Socceroo Stan Lazaridis (thigh injury) was not in the squad.

COCA-COLA CHAMPIONSHIP
Date: 26-02-05
Paul Reid played a full game, as Brighton & Hove Albion won 1-0 at home against Millwall. For Millwall, Qantas Socceroo Kevin Muscat (Achilles) was not in the squad
John Filan (gk) played a full game and received a yellow card, as Wigan Athletic lost 2-1 away at Gillingahm.
Qantas Young Socceroo Trent McClenahan was not in the West Ham squad that lost 2-1 away at Leeds United.
Ryan Townsend was not in the Burnley squad that lost 1-0 away at Preston.
Qantas Socceroo Danny Tiatto was replaced in the 70th minute, as Leicester City drew 0-0 away at Reading.
Qantas Socceroo Tony Vidmar played a full game and scored in the 85th minute, as Cardiff City lost 2-1 away at Sunderland.
Date: 23-02-05
John Filan (gk) played a full game, as Wigan Athletic won 2-1 away at Coventry City.
Ryan Townsend was not in the Burnley squad that drew 1-1 away at Derby County.
Date: 22-02-05
Qantas Socceroo Tony Vidmar remained on the bench, as Cardiff City lost 1-0 at home against Millwall. Away. For Millwall, Qantas Socceroo Kevin Muscat (Achilles) was not in the squad.
Qantas Young Socceroo Trent McClenahan remained on the bench, as West Ham won 1-0 away at Gillingham.
Qantas Socceroo Danny Tiatto played a full game, as Leicester City lost 3-2 away at Stoke City.

COCA-COLA LEAGUE ONE
Date: 26-02-05
Paul Henderson (gk) played a full game, as Bradford City drew 1-1 away at Walsall.
Chris Coyne was replaced in the 70th minute, as Luton lost 3-1 away at Port Vale.
Qantas Young Socceroo Aaron Downes was replaced at half time , as Chesterfield lost 3-1 at home against Peterborough.
Danny Allsopp was not in the Hull City squad that won 2-0 at home against Colchester. For Colchester, Richard Garcia (groin & hip) was not in the squad.
Qantas Socceroo Luke Wilkshire was replaced in the 73rd minute, but not before receiving a yellow card, as Bristol City drew 1-1 at home with Blackpool. For Blackpool, Qantas Under 23 Brad Jones (gk) was not in the squad.
Les Pogliacomi (gk) played a full game, as Oldham Athletic lost 2-1 away at Huddersfield.
Mark Robertson played a full game, as Stockport County won 1-0 at home against Hartlepool. For Hartlepool, Joel Porter played a full game.
Jacob Burns played a full game, as Barnsley won 4-1 at home against Torquay.
Gareth Edds played a full game, while Nick Rizzo remained on the bench, as Milton Keynes Dons drew 0-0 away at Wrexham.
Date: 26-02-05
Chris Coyne played a full game, as Luton won 1-0 at home against Walsall.
Richard Garcia (groin & hip) was not in the Colchester squad that drew 2-2 away at Swindon.
Qantas Socceroo Luke Wilkshire was replaced in the 76th minute, but not before scoring in the 45th minute, as Bristol City won 5-1 at home against Oldham Athletic. For Oldham, Les Pogliacomi (gk) remained on the bench.
Qantas Under 23 Brad Jones (gk) was not in the Blackpool squad that won 2-1 at home against Bradford. For Bradford, Paul Henderson (gk) played a full game.
Mark Robertson was replaced in the 89th minute, as Stockport County lost 2-1 at home against Chesterfield. For Chesterfield, Qantas Young Socceroo Aaron Downes was replaced in the 67th minute.
Joel Porter played a full game, as Hartlepool won 3-1 at home against Brentford.
Jacob Burns played a full game and received a yellow card, as Barnsley lost 4-0 away at Doncaster.
Gareth Edds came on in the 70th minute, while Nick Rizzo was not in the squad, as Milton Keynes Dons drew 1-1 at home against Hull City. For Hull, Danny Allsopp came off in the 60th minute.

COCA-COLA LEAGUE TWO
Date: 26-02-05
Frank Talia (gk) played a full game, as Wycombe Wanderers lost 2-1 at home against Notts County.
Adrian Webster (hamstring) was not in the Darlington squad that lost 1-0 away at Leyton Orient.
Scott Guyett played a full game, as Yeovil Town lost 2-1 away at Grimsby.
Predrag Bojic came on in the 68th minute, as Northampton won 1-0 away at Boston United.
Date: 22-02-05
Frank Talia (gk) played a full game, as Wycombe Wanderers won 4-1 away at Mansfield.
Adrian Webster (hamstring) was not in the Darlington squad that won 2-1 at home against Swansea.
Scott Guyett played a full game and received a yellow card, as Yeovil Town won 4-3 at home with Scunthorpe.

NATIONWIDE CONFERENCE
Date: 26-02-05
Jon Brady remained on the bench, as Stevenage drew 1-1 away at Forest Green.
Adrian Caceres played a full game and received a yellow card, as Aldershot lost 2-1 away at Barnet.
Date: 22-02-05
Jon Brady remained on the bench, as Stevenage won 2-1 away at Carlisle.

SCOTTISH TENNENT'S CUP
Quarter Final
Date: 27-02-05
Qantas Socceroo Patrick Kisnorbo (knee) was not in the Hearts squad that won 2-1 at home against Livingston.

SCOTTISH PREMIER LEAGUE
Date: 26-02-05
Danny Invincibile played a full game, as Kilmarnock lost 2-1 away at Rangers.

SCOTTISH DIVISION TWO
Date: 26-02-05
John Maisano played a full game, as Morton won 2-0 at home against Stranraer.

EUROPEAN CHAMPIONS LEAGUE
1st Stage Knockout - 1st Leg
Date: 22-03-05
Qantas Socceroo Harry Kewell was replaced in the 77th minute, as Liverpool won 3-1 at home against Bayer Leverkusen.

UEFA CUP
Round of 32 - 2nd Leg
Date: 23-02-05
Qantas Socceroo Mark Schwarzer (gk) played a full game, while Qantas Socceroo Mark Viduka (hamstring) was not in the squad, as Middlesbrough won 2-1 at home against Graz AK (Austria). Middlesbrough advanced to the Round of 16 4-3 on aggregate.
Qantas Socceroo Scott Chipperfield played a full game, while Qantas Socceroo Mile Sterjovski was replaced in the 55th minute, as FC Basle lost 2-0 away at Lille (France). FC Basel bowed out of the tournament, 2-0 on aggregate.
Qantas Socceroo Vince Grella (suspended) did not play, while Qantas Socceroo Marco Bresciano came on in the 73rd minute and received a yellow card, as Parma won 2-0 away at VfB Stuttgart (Germany). Parma advanced to the Round of 16 2-0 on aggregate.

AUSTRIA RESULTS
Date: 26-02-05
Ned Zelic played a full game, as FC Wacker Tirol drew 1-1 away at SV Wustenrot Salzburg.

BELGIUM JULIPER LEAGUE
Date: 26-02-05
Qantas Socceroo Stephen Laybutt played a full game, as AA Gent won 2-0 away at Sint-Truiden.
Date: 25-02-05
Michael Turnbull remained on the bench, as Standard Liege won 1-0 at home against Racing Genk.

DUTCH EREDIVISIE
Date: 27-02-05
Peter Zois (gk) remained on the bench, as Willem II Tilburg lost 3-1 at home against AZ Alkmaar.
Date: 26-02-05
Qantas Socceroo Jason Culina played a full game, as Twente Enschede drew 0-0 at home with De Graafschap.

DUTCH GOUDEN GIDS
Date: 25-02-05
Lindsay Wilson played a full game, as Helmond Sport lost 3-0 away at Go Ahead Eagles.
Qantas Under 23 Brett Holman was replaced in the 69th minute, as Excelsior won 1-0 away at Fortuna Sittard.

GERMAN BUNDESLIGA
Date: 27-02-05
Frank Juric (gk) remained on the bench, as Hannover 96 lost 1-0 away at Schalke 04.
Date: 26-02-05
Christoph Teinert came on in the 62nd minute, as FSV Mainz 05 lost 3-0 away at Borussia Dortmund.
Qantas Socceroo Craig Moore played a full game, as Borussia Monchengladbach drew 0-0 away at Hansa Rostock.

GERMAN BUNDESLIGA 2
Date: 27-02-05
Sasa Radulovic did not play, as LR Ahlen lost 3-2 at home against FC Rot-Weib Erfurt
Date: 25-02-05
Qantas Socceroo Paul Agostino came on in the 66th minute, as 1860 Munich won 1-0 at home against FC Energie Cottbus.

GREEK DIVISION ONE
Date: 27-02-05
Kyriakos Tohourglou (gk) played a full game, as PAOK Saloniki won 3-1 away at Aris Saloniki.

ITALIAN SERIE A
Date: 27-02-05
Qantas Socceroos Marco Bresciano played a full game, while Qantas Socceroo Vince Grella was replaced in the 82nd minute, as Parma lost 2-0 away at Lazio.

ITALIAN SERIE B
Date: 27-02-05
Qantas Socceroo Zeljko Kalac (gk) remained on the bench, as Perugia won 1-0 away at Cesena.
Jess Vanstrattan (gk) remained on the bench, as Verona drew 2-2 at home against Ascoli.
Qantas Socceroo Max Vieri was replaced in the 73rd minute, but not before scoring in the 34th minute, as Ternana won 3-2 at home against Treviso.

MALTESE PREMIER LEAGUE
Date: 26-02-05
Michael Xuereb (gk) remained on the bench, as Hibernians lost 3-0 at home against Valletta FC.
Date: 21-02-05
Michael Xuereb (gk) remained on the bench, as Hibernians drew 1-1 away at Birkirkara FC.

SPANISH PRIMERA LIGA
Date: 27-02-05
Qantas Socceroo John Aloisi was replaced in the 74th minute, but not before scoring in the 52nd minute, as Osasuna lost 6-1 at home against Malaga.

SPANISH SEGUNDA DIVISION
Date: 27-02-05
Jose Bello Amigo (gk) played a full game, as Racing Ferrol lost 1-0 at home against Recreativo.

SWISS NATIONALIGA
Date: 27-02-05
Ljubo Milicevic did not see action again on the weekend after its game against Zurich was postponed.
Joel Griffiths also did not see action on the weekend, with its match against Servette postponed.
Qantas SocceroosScott Chipperfield and Mile Sterjovski also did not play, as their scheduled fixture against Servette was not played due to Servette being expelled from the competition.

TURKISH SUPER LEAGUE
Date: 27-02-05
Jason Petkovic (gk) did not play, as Konyaspor won 3-1 at home against Kayserispor.
Michael Petkovic (gk) played a full game, as Trabzonspor won 3-0 at home against Denizli.
Date: 26-02-05
Qantas Socceroo Josip Skoko played a full game and scored a 23rd minute penalty, as Genclerbirligi won 3-1 away at Diyarbakirspor.

Adrian Caceres has been released by Yeovil Town and has signed for Conference side Aldershot.

TOP AUSSIE GOALSCORERS AROUND THE GLOBE

1. Jason CULINA FC Twente Enschede (Netherlands) 11
2. Scott McDONALD Motherwell (Scotland) 10
3. Joel PORTER Hartlepool (England) 10
4. Daniel McBREEN Falkirk (Scotland) 9
5. Luke WILKSHIRE Bristol City (England) 9
6. Danny INVINCIBILE Kilmarnock (Scotland) 8
7. Archie THOMPSON Lierse (Belgium) 8
8. Danny ALLSOPP Hull City (England) 7
9. Tim CAHILL Everton (England) 7
10. Mark VIDUKA Middlesbrough (England) 7
11. Richard GARCIA Colchester (England) 6
12. Joshua KENNEDY Dynamo Dresden (Germany) 6
13. John ALOISI Osasuna (Spain) 4
14. Adrian CACERES Yeovil Town (England) 4
15. Scott CHIPPERFIELD FC Basel (Switzerland)4
16. Chris COYNE Luton Town (England) 4
17. Brett EMERTON Blackburn Rovers (England) 4
18. Scott TUNBRIDGE Hamilton Academicals (Scotland) 4
19. Paul AGOSTINO 1860 Munich (Germany) 4
20. Max VIERI Ternana (Italy) 4

Compiled by Thomas Bates & David Cooper of the FFA.

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European Round-Up

Spain: Reigning champions Valencia defeated Real Betis on Sunday, to climb to a shared fourth position, as both Sevilla and Villarreal dropped points.

At Mestalla stadium, Valencia ended their losing streak, coming back from behind to beat Real Betis, who took the lead through Assunçao in th 13th minute. Ruben Baraja levelled in the 29th minute, and Mista got the winning goal for 2-1 in the 72nd. Not much later, goalscorer Assunçao was expulsed with a red card.

Sevilla faced Racing Santander in Andalucia and took the lead twice, with goals from Baptista and Dario Silva. However, Racing levelled on both occasions, through Aganzo and Regueiro (in the 84th minute) respectivly.

Zaragoza, who earlier today heard that their next opponent in the UEFA Cup is Austria Vienna, had a 1-0 win over Villarreal. The only goal of the match was scored by Villa in the 39th minute.

Italy: The city derby between Internazionale and AC Milan ended with a small win for the visiting team. Ancelotti's side maintain their shared lead with Juventus, who defeated AC Siena.

Internazionale suffered their first defeat of the season, against arch rivals AC Milan at Giuseppe Meazza stadium. The importance of the match was more exciting than the actual match itself, as two strikes from Juan Sebastian Veron were the game's only real highlights, until the 74th minute when AC Milan broke the deadlock.

A strike from Gennaro Gattuso was deflected by the Brazilian Kaká, and the ball rolled past Inter goalkeeper Toldo. Internazionale were unable to recover during the remaining sixteen minutes, and lost their first match of the season.

Earlier on Sunday, Juventus had an easy win over Siena. At Delle Alpi, the team from Turin won 3-0 with a first half goal from Alessandro del Piero, and second half goals from Emerson and again Del Pieri, this time from the penalty spot.

Germany: Schalke 04 had a small but sufficient win over Hannover to maintain their shared first position with Bayern Munich, while Stuttgart and Bayer held each other to a draw in Leverkusen.

Schalke needed a win over Hannover 96 to maintain their lead with Bayern, and this was achieved with a single goal from Hanke in the 65th minute, after which the hosts managed to hold on to their lead.

Both goals at Bayer Leverkusen versus VfB Stuttgart were scored in the last ten minutes of the match. Dimitar Berbatov put Bayer ahead in the 80th minute, but the Bulgarian's goal was cancelled out by a Cacau penalty in the 89th, 1-1.

As both teams drop points, Berlin based side Hertha BSC stay in fourth position, with just Bayern, Schalke and Werder Bremen ahead.

Netherlands: Leaders PSV Eindhoven needed until the 39th minute to open the score at Heerenveen. The Korean Park put the team of coach Guus Hiddink ahead, but the hosts had a good chance to equalize in the second half, when given a penalty following a foul from Bogelund.

However, striker Klaas-Jan Huntelaar saw his shot saved by the Brazilian goalkeeper Gomes, and PSV doubled their lead through Farfán in the 82nd minute. Farfán also got the third goal, 0-3 in the 90th minute.

AZ Alkmaar needed to come back from behind to beat Willem II in the town of Tilburg. Ceesay had scored for the home side in the 27th minute, but Barry van Galen levelled for AZ just before half time. In the second half, goals from Lindenbergh and again Van Galen decided the match, 1-3. Willem II's Van Mosselveld was red-carded in the 77th minute.

Without former coach Ronald Koeman, Ajax had a 1-2 win at Roda JC in Kerkrade. Goals from Charisteas and Julien Escudé gave the team from Amsterdam a secure lead, and Roda only managed to score one back, through Cristiano in the 64th minute.

In Rotterdam, Feyenoord recovered from their UEFA Cup disappointment by beating RBC Roosendaal 3-0. Dirk Kuijt scored for Ruud Gullit's side in the 26th minute, while Salomon Kalou and the Japanese midfielder Ono were successful in the last ten minutes.

Turkey: Turkish defending champions Fenerbahçe were handed the chance to extend their lead at the top of the table as Galatasaray were surprisingly defeated by Samsunspor.

Galatasaray could have hoped for a better away encounter on Saturday as the Turkish giants went dow 2-0 away to Samsunspor to offer arch-rivals Fenerbahçe the opportunity to extend their safety cushion at the top of the table.

Kais Ghodbane broke the Galatasaray deadlock after 53 minutes of play, before a penalty kick from Tomas handed the home side a comfortable 2-goal margin. Hakan Sukur's 80th-minute spot-kick handed the visitors a glimmer of hope, but the score line remained unchanged.

On Sunday, Fenerbahçe took profit of their rivals' slip-up as they defeated league strugglers and current table bottom Sebatspor 2-0 to extend their lead to 4 points at the top of the Turkish league.

England: Two matches were played in the English Premier League on Saturday, with Newcastle beating Bolton Wanderers while Middlesbrough drew with Charlton Athletic.

Newcastle, who recently qualified for the UEFA Cup round of sixteen, opened the score against Bolton Wanderers in the 35th minute through Lee Bowyer, but conceded an equalizer from Giannakopoulos in the 41st. The decisive goal was scored by Kieron Dyer in the 67th minute for 2-1.

Elsewhere, Charlton Athletic took the lead twice at Middlesbrough, but the hosts levelled on both occasions. The Irish player Matt Holland saw his goal cancelled out by Rigott, and Shaun Bartlett's goal in the 81st minute faced the same destiny five minutes later when Graham equalized for 2-2.

After two goals in regular time, and three in extra time, Chelsea on this year's Carling Cup, beating Liverpool 3-2 at the Millennium stadium in Cardiff.

In the very first minute of the match played in the Welsh capital, Liverpool took the lead with a beautiful goal from the Norwegian John Arne Riise, who volleyed home from a Fernando Morientes cross.

The Reds spent a large part of the match defending their narrow lead over the Premiership leaders from London, but disaster struck for captain Steven Gerrard in the 79th minute, when heading past his own goalkeeper, Jerzy Dudek, to equalize for his opponents.

France: French title contenders Lille and Olympique de Marseille have lost more ground to defending champions Lyon after being held to home draws yesterday.

Claude Puel's Lille were willing to complete a prolific week, following their midweek UEFA Cup qualification against Basel, as they were entertaining Rennes at the Villeneuve d'Ascq stadium.

The visiting side having so far recorded one of the worst away forms of the French Ligue 1, Lille had been tipped to take profit of their home advantage. But Claude Puel and his men were left frustrated, as a lack of inspiration from the home side and good composure from the visitors saw Rennes and Lille take a point each on the night.

Lille's goalless draw against Rennes was the perfect opportunity for Marseille to consolidate their second place as Troussier and his men were hosting table bottom and neighbours Istres FC.

Scotland: Celtic, Dundee United, Hearts and Hibernian have qualified for the semi finals of the Scottish FA Cup.

The most convincing win in the quarter finals was achieved by Celtic at Clyde. The side from Glasgow scored five times without conceding any. The goals came from Varga, Thompson (penalty), Petrov, again Varga and Craig Bellamy.

Dundee United had a rather easy win over Aberdeen. In a clash between two Premiership sides, Dundee took a secure lead with goals from Archibald and Grady, and after Byrne had scored one back for the guests, Crawford and again Grady set the final score to 4-1.

Hearts had a 2-1 win over Livingston, with goals scored by Miller in the very first minute, and McAllister in the 10th. Easton scored for Livingston on the hour mark.

In the only quarter final played on Saturday, Hibernian defeated St. Mirren 2-0 with goals from Brown and OConnor.

UEFA Cup: Austria Vienna have qualified for the round of sixteen of the 2004-05 UEFA Cup, following their second-leg win over Athletic de Bilbao in Spain.

At San Mamés stadium in Bilbao, the hosts were in a good position when Yeste scored from the penalty spot after 20 minutes. However, a goal from Vienna's Sionko turned things around, as the Austrians now had an away goal advantage after the scoreless draw on Thursday.

After his goal in the 35th minute, Sionko also scored for 1-2 in the 69th. Bilbao now needed two goals to avoid elimination, which turned out to be an impossible task.

In the next round, Austria Vienna will again face a Spanish opponent; Copa del Rey winners Real Zaragoza.

Sacked Coaches: Ronald Koeman has stepped down as Ajax Amsterdam manager in the wake of his side's early UEFA Cup elimination.

"I have requested the managing board and the committee of Ajax to terminate our contract. I have to be honest to myself and to Ajax. Yesterday's result was the last straw. I no longer have the strength and the energy to get over this and make the team perform better," confirmed Koeman on the club's official website.

Italian manager Claudio Ranieri has been sacked as Valencia manager, during an unplanned staff meeting held on Friday.

Having been unable to clinch one win in 6 league games in La Liga, Valencia have drifted to 6th place in the Spanish table, as the Bats now trail league leaders Barcelona FC by a massive 19 points.

National News

QANTAS JOEYS DRAW AGAINST CHILE

The Australian Under 17 team (Qantas Joeys) have drawn 3-3 against Chile overnight in Santiago narrowly failing to avenge the 3-0 defeat by the same team just six days ago.

After leading 2-1 at half time the Qantas Joeys had a number of chances to win in the dying stages of the match but were unable to find a winner.

"I was very happy with the intensity that the boys showed tonight especially after the last performance against Chile," said coach Ange Postecoglou.

"We outplayed the opposition for large periods of the match but a couple of lapses at either end of the pitch cost us the win.

"South American countries are always very strong at this level and it has been a great learning experience for such young players."

Despite starting well the Qantas Joeys fell behind to a goal on the quarter hour mark when a free-kick could only be parried by goalkeeper Elliott Jones and was put away by Rodrigo Tapia from close range.

Defender Jamie Cumming equalised for Australia after 28 minutes when he stabbed the ball home following a Daniel Visevic corner.

David Williams and Visevic caused the Chilean defence plenty of heartache throughout the first half coming close to scoring on several occasions and the duo combined for Australia's second goal as Williams slipped the ball in behind the defence for Visevic to give Australia the lead.

The Chileans equalised seven minutes after the interval through Jorge Aravena from another free-kick however the Qantas Joeys again took the lead just five minutes later when David Williams broke through and rounded the goalkeeper after Leigh Broxham had laid the groundwork.

With plenty of goalmouth action at either end of the pitch it was to be the home side that managed to convert, scoring the sixth and final goal of the match in the 71st minute with a quick break upfield finished by Tapia for his second goal of the game.

The Australians will conclude their five-match tour against Colo Colo on Tuesday with the Oceania qualifying tournament for the 2005 FIFA Under 17 World Championship will be played in New Caledonia in April.

The 2005 FIFA Under 17 World Championship will be held in Peru from 16 September until 2 October.

Match Details:

Chile U/17 3 (Rodrigo Tapia 15', 71' Jorge Aravena 52')

Australia U/17 3 (Jamie Cumming 28', Daniel Visevic 37', David Williams 57')

Australian Line-up: Elliott Jones; Jamie Cumming, Wade Oostendorp, Matt Spiranovic, Leigh Broxham, Matt Mullen (Ian Graham 65'), Brendan Maroney (Scott Gannon 65'), Daniel Visevic (Joel Allwright h/t), David Williams, David D'Apuzzo, Robbie Kruse (Morgan Zeeno h/t)

Subs Not Used: Shannon Lancini (gk), Matt Dobbin, Tayfun Buyukkopru, Blake Charity, Matt Dimech

Cautions: D'Apuzzo 15', Mullen 52'

QANTAS SOCCEROOS TO PLAY NEW ZEALAND

Football Federation Australia today confirmed that the Qantas Socceroos will play New Zealand on June 9 in London as part of the team's preparation for the FIFA Confederations Cup in Germany later in the month.

The historic match will be the first between the two nations since last year's World Cup qualifying match in Adelaide won 1-0 by Australia.

"This match is vital preparation for us a week before the commencement of the FIFA Confederations Cup in Germany," said Football Federation Australia Chief Executive John O'Neill.

"New Zealand is a traditional sporting rival of ours dating back to our first meeting in 1922 and matches between our two national teams are always highly competitive. Playing the game in London will allow the many Australians and New Zealanders living in Europe the chance to see their national teams in action."

Confirmation of the match has also been welcomed by New Zealand Soccer Chief Executive Graham Seatter.

"While ideally we would be playing at home, matches in Europe make sense from a financial and a logistical point of view. The majority of our players are there so travel demands are reduced as is time away from clubs and clearly it is a considerably saving to our organisation. Our dialogue with Australia has been frank and positive and I would expect this to be the first of many such opportunities."

The Qantas Socceroos have been drawn against Germany (15 June, Frankfurt), Argentina (18 June, Nuremberg) and Tunisia (21 June, Leipzig) in Group A at the 2005 FIFA Confederations Cup.

Prior to the match against New Zealand the Qantas Socceroos will play against Iraq on March 26 at Sydney's Telstra Stadium, to be followed three days later by a match against Indonesia in Perth with proceeds going towards victims of the Tsunami disaster.

All the Qantas Socceroo matches will be exclusively live on SBS TV.

Australia v Iraq Match Details
Australia v Iraq
7pm, Saturday 26 March 2005
Telstra Stadium, Sydney

World Cup Ticket orders break two million barrier

The number of tickets ordered for the 2006 FIFA World Cup™ has burst through the two million barrier and continues inexorably upwards. By the morning of Thursday 24 February 2005, the Organising Committee had received exactly 319,874 applications requesting a total of 2,198,462 match tickets. The applications originate from 176 different countries, with 96 percent from Europe and 85 percent from Germany. "Some matches are overbooked, the Final in particular. But we still have tickets for many of the group matches so there's a good chance of success," declared OC senior vice-president responsible for ticketing Horst R. Schmidt. "We're delighted with the response, and just as delighted at the complete absence of technical problems."

Some 812,000 tickets are on offer in the first sales period until 31 March 2005. The lucky recipients of FIFA World Cup tickets will be chosen in a match-by-match random ballot on 15 April 2005. The draw procedure must be completed before ascertaining ticket quotas and a start date for the anticipated second sales period.

ON THE BOX THIS WEEK

CHANNEL 31
The VSF Soccer Show, Wednesday 9pm

SBS
UEFA Champions League Magazine, Sunday 3:30pm
The World Game, Sunday 4:00pm

FOX SPORTS 1
LIVE Aston Villa v Middlesborough, Saturday 11:00pm
LIVE Newcastle v Liverpool, Sunday 2:00am
LIVE Norwich v Chelsea, Sunday 4:10am

WORLD FOOTBALL

English Premier League

Tottenham - Fulham 2 - 0
Southampton - Arsenal 1 - 1
Manchester U - Portsmouth 2 - 1
Crystal Palace - Birmingham 2 - 0
Aston Villa - Everton 1 - 3
Newcastle - Bolton 2 - 1
Middlesbrough - Charlton 2 - 2
Norwich - Manchester C 2 - 3

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
1. Chelsea	27	21	5	1	50	8	68
2. Manchester U	28	18	8	2	47	17	62
3. Arsenal	28	17	7	4	64	32	58
4. Everton	28	15	6	7	34	29	51
5. Liverpool	27	13	4	10	41	29	43
6. Middlesbrough	28	11	9	8	43	37	42
7. Bolton	28	11	7	10	36	34	40
8. Tottenham	27	11	6	10	35	30	39
9. Charlton	27	11	6	10	32	38	39
10. Manchester C	28	9	9	10	34	31	36
11. Aston Villa	28	9	8	11	32	37	35
12. Newcastle	27	8	10	9	39	44	34
13. Birmingham	28	8	8	12	31	35	32
14. Portsmouth	28	8	6	14	31	42	30
15. Fulham	27	8	5	14	33	46	29
16. Blackburn	27	6	10	11	24	36	28
17. Crystal Palace	28	6	7	15	32	45	25
18. Southampton	28	3	12	13	29	44	21
19. Norwich	28	3	11	14	28	55	20
20. West Bromwich	27	2	12	13	23	49	18

English Championship

Brighton - Millwall 1 - 0
Coventry - Stoke 0 - 0
Gillingham - Wigan 2 - 1
Ipswich - Queens PR 0 - 2
Leeds - West Ham 2 - 1
Nottingham - Derby 2 - 2
Plymouth - Crewe 3 - 0
Preston - Burnley 1 - 0
Reading - Leicester 0 - 0
Sheffield U - Rotherham 1 - 0
Sunderland - Cardiff 2 - 1
Wolverhampton - Watford 0 - 0

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
1. Wigan	35	19	9	7	62	27	66
2. Sunderland	35	20	6	9	55	33	66
3. Ipswich	35	19	9	7	62	43	66
4. Derby	35	16	8	11	52	44	56
5. Preston	35	16	8	11	48	46	56
6. West Ham	34	16	6	12	48	41	54
7. Reading	35	14	11	10	40	33	53
8. Sheffield U	33	14	9	10	40	42	51
9. Millwall	35	14	8	13	36	31	50
10. Leeds	36	13	11	12	42	40	50
11. Stoke	34	13	9	12	23	24	48
12. Queens PR	34	14	6	14	43	45	48
13. Burnley	33	11	12	10	27	27	45
14. Watford	34	10	14	10	42	39	44
15. Brighton	35	12	8	15	30	43	44
16. Crewe	34	11	10	13	54	59	43
17. Wolverhampton	34	9	15	10	46	45	42
18. Leicester	33	9	14	10	35	33	41
19. Plymouth	35	11	8	16	40	48	41
20. Cardiff	34	9	10	15	36	39	37
21. Coventry	35	9	9	17	42	57	36
22. Gillingham	35	9	7	19	32	55	34
23. Nottingham	33	6	12	15	32	47	30
24. Rotherham	35	3	13	19	26	52	22

French Ligue 1

Ajaccio - Lens 0 - 0
Bordeaux - Caen 2 - 2
Lyon - Saint Etienne 3 - 2
Nantes - Strasbourg 2 - 1
Nice - Monaco 2 - 1
Paris SG - Bastia 1 - 0
Lille - Rennes 0 - 0
Marseille - Istres 1 - 1

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
1. Lyon	27	15	11	1	39	15	56
2. Marseille	27	14	6	7	35	24	48
3. Lille	27	12	11	4	31	17	47
4. Monaco	26	11	11	4	36	23	44
5. Auxerre	26	12	6	8	36	27	42
6. Toulouse	26	10	8	8	27	26	38
7. Rennes	27	10	6	11	30	31	36
8. Sochaux	26	9	8	9	30	24	35
9. Lens	27	8	11	8	27	25	35
10. Saint Etienne	26	7	13	6	32	25	34
11. Bordeaux	27	6	15	6	28	25	33
12. Paris SG	27	7	12	8	27	31	33
13. Nice	27	7	11	9	32	39	32
14. Metz	26	7	10	9	23	32	31
15. Nantes	27	7	9	11	22	27	30
16. Strasbourg	26	6	9	11	30	34	27
17. Caen	27	5	11	11	22	46	26
18. Ajaccio	26	4	13	9	20	28	25
19. Bastia	27	5	8	14	18	33	23
20. Istres	27	3	13	11	16	29	22

German Bundesliga

Dortmund - Mainz 05 3 - 0
Freiburg - Bayern Munchen 0 - 1
Werder Bremen - Bochum 4 - 0
Hertha BSC - Hamburger SV 4 - 1
Hansa Rostock - Monchengladbach 0 - 0
Kaiserslautern - Wolfsburg 0 - 0
Arminia Bielefeld - Nurnberg 3 - 1
Schalke 04 - Hannover 96 1 - 0
Leverkusen - Stuttgart 1 - 1

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
1. Bayern Munchen	23	14	5	4	45	23	47
2. Schalke 04	23	15	2	6	37	27	47
3. Werder Bremen	23	13	4	6	53	26	43
4. Hertha BSC	23	10	9	4	39	20	39
5. Leverkusen	23	11	6	6	42	30	39
6. Stuttgart	23	11	6	6	41	29	39
7. Hamburger SV	23	12	1	10	40	36	37
8. Wolfsburg	23	11	1	11	39	35	34
9. Kaiserslautern	23	9	5	9	31	31	32
10. Hannover 96	23	9	5	9	27	27	32
11. Arminia Bielefeld	23	9	5	9	26	28	32
12. Dortmund	23	8	7	8	27	30	31
13. Monchenglad	23	6	7	10	26	38	25
14. Nurnberg	23	6	6	11	38	43	24
15. Mainz 05	23	6	5	12	27	40	23
16. Bochum	23	4	7	12	29	48	19
17. Freiburg	23	3	7	13	18	45	16
18. Hansa Rostock	23	2	8	13	18	47	14

Albania Championship

Shkumbini - Vllaznia 0 - 1
Tirana - Teuta 2 - 2
Lushnja - Dinamo Tirana 2 - 2
Elbasani - Partizani 2 - 1
Laci - Egnatia 0 - 3

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
1. Tirana	25	19	4	2	55	19	61
2. Elbasani	25	16	5	4	42	20	53
3. Vllaznia	25	15	1	9	54	28	46
4. Dinamo Tirana	25	11	6	8	35	22	39
5. Teuta	25	11	2	12	27	34	35
6. Shkumbini	25	10	4	11	32	29	34
7. Lushnja	25	9	7	9	28	31	34
8. Partizani	25	8	6	11	35	35	30
9. Egnatia	25	6	4	15	18	29	22
10. Laci	25	0	1	24	7	86	1

Belgium Jupiler League

Mons-Bergen - Anderlecht 1 - 2
Standard - Racing Genk 1 - 0
Sint-Truiden - AA Gent 0 - 2

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
1. Club Brugge	23	19	3	1	61	15	60
2. Anderlecht	23	15	4	4	47	23	49
3. Racing Genk	23	13	6	4	35	23	45
4. Standard	23	13	5	5	38	21	44
5. Charleroi	23	12	6	5	30	22	42
6. AA Gent	23	12	4	7	34	24	40
7. La Louviere	23	10	6	7	32	21	36
8. Westerlo	23	10	3	10	24	34	33
9. Lokeren	23	8	8	7	26	26	32
10. Lierse SK	23	8	5	10	39	41	29
11. Beveren	23	7	5	11	31	38	26
12. Cercle	23	7	4	12	32	57	25
13. Excelsior M	23	6	6	11	32	33	24
14. G.B.A.	23	5	5	13	21	29	20
15. Sint-Truiden	23	5	5	13	24	41	20
16. Mons-Bergen	23	5	3	15	28	40	18
17. Oostende	23	4	6	13	21	44	18
18. FC Brussels	23	5	2	16	20	43	17

Dutch Eredivisie

NEC - RKC 1 - 0
NAC - FC Groningen 1 - 4
FC Twente - de Graafschap 0 - 0
SC Heerenveen - PSV 0 - 3
Willem II - AZ 1 - 3
FC den Bosch - Vitesse 1 - 2
Roda JC - Ajax 1 - 2
ADO den Haag - FC Utrecht 1 - 0
Feyenoord - RBC 3 - 0

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
1. PSV	23	18	4	1	61	13	58
2. AZ	23	16	6	1	53	16	54
3. Ajax	23	15	5	3	50	21	50
4. Feyenoord	23	13	5	5	62	27	44
5. Vitesse	23	11	4	8	39	32	37
6. FC Utrecht	23	10	5	8	26	24	35
7. SC Heerenveen	23	10	5	8	38	40	35
8. FC Twente	23	9	5	9	28	27	32
9. Roda JC	23	8	6	9	40	37	30
10. RKC	23	8	6	9	28	31	30
11. FC Groningen	23	8	5	10	32	38	29
12. NAC	23	7	6	10	30	47	27
13. ADO den Haag	23	7	5	11	29	35	26
14. Willem II	23	7	4	12	26	45	25
15. NEC	23	5	8	10	25	33	23
16. de Graafschap	23	4	6	13	25	52	18
17. RBC	23	4	2	17	23	55	14
18. FC den Bosch	23	2	3	18	12	54	9

Italy Serie A

Brescia - Sampdoria 0 - 1
Fiorentina - Udinese 2 - 2
Juventus - Siena 3 - 0
Inter Milan - Milan 0 - 1
Lazio - Parma 2 - 0
Bologna - Livorno 0 - 0
Lecce - Messina 1 - 0
Reggina - Chievo 1 - 0
Palermo - Roma 2 - 0
Cagliari - Atalanta 3 - 3

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
1. Milan	26	17	6	3	44	16	57
2. Juventus	26	17	6	3	43	15	57
3. Sampdoria	26	13	5	8	30	20	44
4. Inter Milan	26	9	16	1	47	31	43
5. Udinese	26	12	6	8	36	26	42
6. Palermo	26	11	9	6	28	19	42
7. Roma	26	10	8	8	45	38	38
8. Lecce	26	9	8	9	45	45	35
9. Reggina	26	9	8	9	27	29	35
10. Cagliari	26	9	7	10	36	42	34
11. Bologna	26	8	9	9	26	25	33
12. Lazio	26	9	6	11	34	36	33
13. Livorno	26	8	7	11	26	33	31
14. Messina	26	7	8	11	29	40	29
15. Chievo	26	7	7	12	21	37	28
16. Fiorentina	26	6	9	11	25	34	27
17. Parma	26	6	8	12	27	42	26
18. Siena	26	4	13	9	24	38	25
19. Brescia	26	6	5	15	18	32	23
20. Atalanta	26	3	9	14	22	35	18

Spain Primera Liga

Deportivo - Real Madrid 2 - 0
Espanyol - Albacete 2 - 1
Mallorca - Levante 1 - 2
Numancia - Barcelona 1 - 1
Atletico - Sociedad 1 - 0
Valencia - Betis 2 - 1
Sevilla - Racing 2 - 2
Zaragoza - Villarreal 1 - 0
Osasuna - Malaga 1 - 6

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
1. Barcelona	25	18	4	3	50	18	58
2. Real Madrid	25	16	2	7	43	21	50
3. Sevilla	25	12	6	7	30	27	42
4. Valencia	25	11	8	6	38	25	41
5. Betis	25	11	8	6	40	30	41
6. Espanyol	25	12	5	8	32	28	41
7. Villarreal	25	11	7	7	41	23	40
8. Atletico	25	10	6	9	27	23	36
9. Athletic	24	9	8	7	39	32	35
10. Deportivo	25	8	11	6	35	34	35
11. Zaragoza	25	9	5	11	30	38	32
12. Malaga	25	9	4	12	25	33	31
13. Levante	25	8	6	11	27	37	30
14. Osasuna	25	8	6	11	34	45	30
15. Sociedad	25	8	5	12	30	35	29
16. Getafe	24	7	6	11	22	27	27
17. Racing	25	6	7	12	24	38	25
18. Albacete	25	5	8	12	23	35	23
19. Mallorca	25	5	6	14	24	41	21
20. Numancia	25	4	6	15	16	40	18

Greece Ethniki Katigoria

Ionikos - Panionios 0 - 0
Kallithea - AEK Athens 1 - 2
Kalamaria - Aigaleo 1 - 1
Panathinaikos - Kerkira 1 - 0
Olympiakos Piraeus - Halkidona 3 - 0
Iraklis - OFI 1 - 0
Aris Saloniki - PAOK 1 - 3
Ergotelis - Xanthi 0 - 2

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
1. Olympiakos	20	13	5	2	37	11	44
2. Panathinaikos	20	13	3	4	35	12	42
3. AEK Athens	20	11	8	1	30	16	41
4. Xanthi	20	10	6	4	32	21	36
5. PAOK	20	9	4	7	29	26	31
6. Aigaleo	20	5	11	4	18	16	26
7. Halkidona	20	6	7	7	18	21	25
8. Iraklis	20	7	4	9	18	21	25
9. Panionios	20	6	7	7	14	17	25
10. OFI	20	6	5	9	26	29	23
11. Kallithea	20	5	7	8	29	32	22
12. Ionikos	20	4	8	8	14	25	20
13. Aris Saloniki	20	3	10	7	17	24	19
14. Ergotelis	20	5	4	11	17	33	19
15. Kalamaria	20	3	7	10	16	34	16
16. Kerkira	20	3	6	11	15	27	15

Portugal Super Liga

Sp.Braga - Gil Vicente 2 - 1
Boavista - Uniao Leiria 0 - 0
Penafiel - Belenenses 0 - 0
Moreirense - Maritimo 1 - 0
Guimaraes - Nacional 1 - 1
Academica - Setubal 3 - 3
Beira-Mar - Rio Ave 0 - 0
Porto - Benfica 1 - 1
Sporting CP - Estoril 4 - 0

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
1. Sporting CP	23	12	6	5	50	27	42
2. Benfica	23	12	6	5	36	23	42
3. Porto	23	11	9	3	28	15	42
4. Sp.Braga	23	11	7	5	31	17	40
5. Boavista	23	11	7	5	29	27	40
6. Maritimo	23	8	10	5	25	20	34
7. Rio Ave	23	7	12	4	29	29	33
8. Setubal	23	8	8	7	33	28	32
9. Guimaraes	23	8	7	8	22	21	31
10. Nacional	23	9	4	10	29	31	31
11. Belenenses	23	8	5	10	32	28	29
12. Uniao Leiria	23	6	11	6	20	22	29
13. Moreirense	23	5	9	9	21	32	24
14. Penafiel	23	7	3	13	23	39	24
15. Gil Vicente	23	6	5	12	23	28	23
16. Estoril	23	6	4	13	26	38	22
17. Academica	23	5	5	13	19	33	20
18. Beira-Mar	23	4	8	11	22	40	20

Chile Primera Division

San Felipe - U. Catolica 0 - 2
Colo Colo - Everton CD 2 - 1
Wanderers - Temuco 0 - 1
U. Espanola - La Serena 1 - 2
Rangers Talca - A. Italiano 2 - 0
Cobreloa - U. de Chile 1 - 1
Coquimbo - U.Concepcion 3 - 1
D.Concepcion - Melipilla 0 - 0
Palestino - Puerto Montt 0 - 3

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
1. U. Catolica	7	5	1	1	15	4	16
2. Cobresal	5	4	1	0	13	6	13
3. U. de Chile	6	4	1	1	11	5	13
4. Huachipato	6	4	1	1	15	10	13
5. Cobreloa	6	4	1	1	13	10	13
6. Coquimbo	7	4	0	3	10	8	12
7. Colo Colo	6	3	2	1	13	7	11
8. Rangers Talca	7	3	2	2	7	6	11
9. La Serena	7	3	2	2	12	15	11
10. D.Concepcion	6	2	3	1	6	6	9
11. Everton CD	7	2	3	2	12	14	9
12. Temuco	7	2	2	3	10	11	8
13. U.Concepcion	6	2	1	3	5	7	7
14. San Felipe	7	2	1	4	5	10	7
15. Palestino	7	2	0	5	8	12	6
16. Melipilla	7	1	3	3	2	8	6
17. U. Espanola	6	0	4	2	10	12	4
18. Wanderers	7	1	1	5	9	14	4
19. A. Italiano	6	0	3	3	5	10	3
20. Puerto Montt	7	1	0	6	6	12	3

Turkey Super Lig

Rizespor - Istanbulspor 1 - 1
Diyarbakirspor - Gençlerbirligi 1 - 3
Ankaragucu - Malatyaspor 3 - 0
Samsunspor - Galatasaray 2 - 1
Fenerbahçe - Sebatspor 2 - 0
Besiktas - Sakaryaspor 2 - 1
Trabzonspor - Denizlispor 3 - 0
Ankaraspor - Gaziantepspor 1 - 0
Konyaspor - Kayserispor 3 - 1

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
1. Fenerbahçe	22	18	2	2	58	10	56
2. Trabzonspor	22	16	4	2	44	14	52
3. Galatasaray	22	16	3	3	42	14	51
4. Besiktas	21	12	5	4	46	26	41
5. Rizespor	22	9	7	6	26	19	34
6. Denizlispor	22	10	4	8	31	28	34
7. Malatyaspor	22	9	4	9	29	31	31
8. Ankaraspor	22	8	5	9	30	30	29
9. Konyaspor	22	6	10	6	40	42	28
10. Gaziantepspor	22	8	4	10	31	34	28
11. Samsunspor	22	8	3	11	28	39	27
12. Gençlerbirligi	21	7	4	10	25	29	25
13. Diyarbakirspor	22	7	4	11	22	36	25
14. Ankaragucu	21	6	6	9	19	29	24
15. Sakaryaspor	22	5	3	14	26	48	18
16. Istanbulspor	21	3	8	10	19	33	17
17. Kayserispor	22	4	3	15	28	54	15
18. Sebatspor	22	1	7	14	22	50	10

Croatia 1.HNL Ozujsko

Slaven - Kamen 4 - 1
Zadar - Medimurje 2 - 1
Varteks - Inter Zaprešic 0 - 1
Osijek - Hajduk 2 - 2
Rijeka - Pula 1856 1 - 1
Dinamo Zagreb - Zagreb 1 - 2

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
1. Hajduk	19	11	3	5	34	20	36
2. Rijeka	19	9	7	3	32	19	34
3. Inter Zaprešic	19	10	3	6	23	18	33
4. Varteks	19	10	1	8	37	25	31
5. Slaven	19	9	4	6	21	21	31
6. Osijek	19	7	8	4	28	28	29
7. Dinamo Zagreb	19	7	6	6	32	25	27
8. Zagreb	19	8	3	8	24	22	27
9. Kamen	19	8	2	9	24	25	26
10. Pula 1856	19	4	7	8	17	23	19
11. Zadar	19	5	1	13	24	46	16
12. Medimurje	19	2	3	14	15	39	9

Scotland Premier League

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
1. Rangers	27	21	5	1	58	12	68
2. Celtic	25	20	2	3	53	21	62
3. Hibernian	26	14	5	7	46	33	47
4. Hearts	26	11	8	7	30	23	41
5. Aberdeen	26	11	6	9	27	25	39
6. Motherwell	26	10	4	12	32	34	34
7. Kilmarnock	27	10	2	15	34	46	32
8. Inverness	25	6	8	11	28	36	26
9. Dunfermline	26	6	6	14	24	39	24
10. Dundee FC	26	6	6	14	28	50	24
11. Dundee United	26	4	10	12	28	41	22
12. Livingston	26	4	4	18	19	47	16

Football Quiz Answers: 1) Sky blue and white. 2) The Saints. 3) 1977. 4)Ferenc Puskas. 5) Ernie Merrick. 6)No. 7) Knox City and Whittlesea Stallions 8) Box Hill Inter SC 9) Middlesborough FC 10) Darwin, Northern Territory

WOMENS PREMIER LEAGUE

Round One
4-3-05 Box Hill v Cranbourne 8.30pm, Wembley Park
6-3-05 South Melbourne v Bye, Bob Jane Stadium
6-3-05 Heidelberg v Eltham Nth 1.00pm, Olympic Park
6-3-05 Keilor Park v Bendigo 1.00pm, Keilor Park Reserve
6-3-05 BDSA v Brimbank 3.00pm, Trekardo Park
6-3-05 Eastern Lions v Ashburton 5.00pm, Gardiners Creek Reserve

Round Two
11-3-05 Box Hill v Ashburton 8.30pm, Wembley Park
12-3-05 Brimbank v Heidelberg 1.00pm, Italo-Australian Social Club
13-3-05 Bendigo v Bye, La Trobe Uni Bendigo Athletics Complex
13-3-05 Cranbourne v South Melbourne 1.00pm, Comets Stadium
13-3-05 Keilor Park v Eltham Nth 1.00pm, Keilor Park Reserve
13-3-05 Eastern Lions v BDSA 5.00pm, Gardiners Creek Reserve

Round Three
20-3-05 Eltham Nth v Bye, Partington Flats
20-3-05 Heidelberg v Eastern Lions 1.00pm
20-3-05 Keilor Park v Brimbank 1.00pm
20-3-05 Cranbourne v Bendigo 1.00pm
20-3-05 South Melbourne v Box Hill 1.00pm
20-3-05 BDSA v Ashburton 3.00pm

Round Four
2-4-05 Brimbank v Bye
2-4-05 Bendigo v South Melbourne 3.00pm
3-4-05 Eastern Lions v Keilor Park 1.00pm
3-4-05 Box Hill v BDSA 1.00pm
3-4-05 Ashburton v Heidelberg 3.00pm
3-4-05 Eltham Nth v Cranbourne 3.00pm

Round Five
9-4-05 Bendigo v Box Hill 2.30pm
10-4-05 Eastern Lions v Bye
10-4-05 Heidelberg v BDSA 1.00pm
10-4-05 Keilor Park v Ashburton 1.00pm
10-4-05 Cranbourne v Brimbank 1.00pm
10-4-05 South Melbourne v Eltham Nth 1.00pm

Round Six
15-4-05 Box Hill v Heidelberg 8.30pm
16-4-05 Brimbank v South Melbourne 1.00pm
17-4-05 Ashburton v Bye
17-4-05 Eastern Lions v Cranbourne 1.00pm
17-4-05 BDSA v Keilor Park 3.00pm
17-4-05 Eltham Nth v Bendigo 3.00pm

Round Seven
23-4-05 Bendigo v Brimbank 2.30pm
24-4-05 BDSA v Bye
24-4-05 Keilor Park v Heidelberg 1.00pm
24-4-05 Cranbourne v Ashburton 1.00pm
24-4-05 South Melbourne v Eastern Lions 1.00pm
24-4-05 Eltham Nth v Box Hill 3.00pm

Round Eight
6-5-05 Box Hill v Keilor Park 8.30pm
7-5-05 Brimbank v Eltham Nth 1.00pm
8-5-05 Heidelberg v Bye
8-5-05 Eastern Lions v Bendigo 1.00pm
8-5-05 Ashburton v South Melbourne 3.00pm
8-5-05 BDSA v Cranbourne 3.00pm

Round Nine
14-5-05 Brimbank v Box Hill 1.00pm
14-5-05 Bendigo v Ashburton 2.00pm
15-5-05 Keilor Park v Bye
15-5-05 Cranbourne v Heidelberg 1.00pm
15-5-05 South Melbourne v BDSA 1.00pm
15-5-05 Eltham Nth v Eastern Lions 3.00pm

Round Ten
22-5-05 Box Hill v Bye
22-5-05 Eastern Lions v Brimbank 1.00pm
22-5-05 Heidelberg v South Melbourne 1.00pm
22-5-05 Keilor Park v Cranbourne 1.00pm
22-5-05 Ashburton v Eltham Nth 3.00pm
22-5-05 BDSA v Bendigo 3.00pm

Round Eleven
27-5-05 Box Hill v Eastern Lions 8.30pm
28-5-05 Brimbank v Ashburton 1.00pm
29-5-05 Cranbourne v Bye
29-5-05 South Melbourne v Keilor park
29-5-05 Heidelberg v Bendogo 1.00pm
29-5-05 Eltham Nth v BDSA 3.00pm

Round Twelve
4-6-05 South Melbourne v Bye
4-6-05 Brimbank v BDSA 1.00pm
4-6-05 Bendigo v Keilor Park 2.30pm
5-6-05 Cranbourne v Box Hill 1.00pm
5-6-05 Ashburton v Eastern Lions 3.00pm
5-6-05 Eltham Nth v Heidelberg 3.00pm

Round Thirteen
11-6-05 South Melbourne v Cranbourne 3.00pm
12-6-05 Bendigo v Bye
12-6-05 Heidelbrg v Brimbank 1.00pm
12-6-05 Ashburton v Box Hill 3.00pm
12-6-05 BDSA v Eastern Lions 3.00pm
12-6-05 Eltham Nth v Keilor Park 3.00pm

Round Fourteen
17-6=05 Box Hill v South Melbourne 8.30pm
18-6-05 Brimbank v Keilor Park 1.00pm
18-6-05 Bendigo v Cranbourne 2.30pm
19-6-05 Eltham Nth v Bye
19-6-05 Eastern Lions v Heidelberg 1.00pm
19-6-05 Ashburton v BDSA 3.00pm

Round Fifteen
26-6-05 Brimbank v Bye
26-6-05 Heidelberg v Ashburton 1.00pm
26-6-05 Keilor Park v Eastern Lions 1.00pm
26-6-05 Cranbourne v Eltham Nth 1.00pm
26-6-05 South Melbourne v Bendigo 1.00pm
26-6-05 BDSA v Box Hill 3.00pm

Round Sixteen
9-7-05 Brimbank v Cranbourne 1.00pm
10-7-05 Eastern Lions v Bye
10-7-05 Box Hill v Bendigo 1.00pm
10-7-05 Ashburton v Keilor Park 3.00pm
10-7-05 BDSA v Heidelberg 3.00pm
10-7-05 Eltham Nth v South Melbourne 3.00pm

Round Seventeen
16-7-05 Bendigo v Eltham Nth 2.30pm
16-7-05 South Melbourne v Brimbank 3.00pm
17-7-05 Ashburton v Bye
17-7-05 Heidelberg v Box Hill 1.00pm
17-7-05 Keilor Park v BDSA 1.00pm
17-7-05 Cranbourne v Eastern Lions 1.00pm

Round Eighteen
22-7-05 Box Hill v Eltham Nth 8.30pm
23-7-05 Brimbank v Bendigo 1.00pm
24-7-05 BDSA v Bye
24-7-05 Eastern Lions v South Melbourne 1.00pm
24-7-05 Heidelberg v Keilor Park 1.00pm
24-7-05 Ashburton v Cranbourne 3.00pm

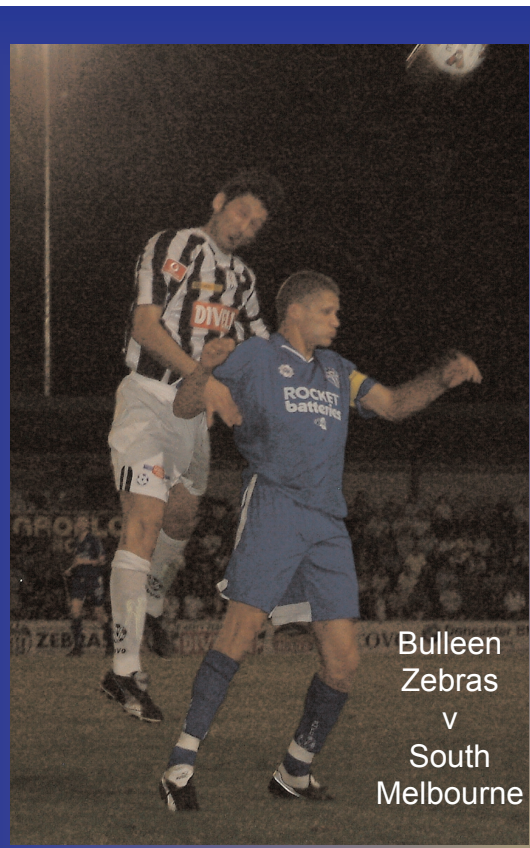
Round Nineteen
30-7-05 Bendigo v Eastern Lions 2.30pm
30-7-05 South Melbourne v Ashburton 3.00pm
31-7-05 Heidelberg v Bye
31-7-05 Keilor Park v Box Hill 1.00pm
31-7-05 Cranbourne v BDSA 1.00pm
31-7-05 Eltham Nth v Brimbank 3.00pm

Round Twenty
5-8-05 Box Hill v Brimbank 8.30pm
7-8-05 Keilor Park v Bye
7-8-05 Eastern Lions v Eltham Nth 1.00pm
7-8-05 Heidelberg v Cranbourne 1.00pm
7-8-05 Ashburton v Bendigo 3.00pm
7-8-05 BDSA v South Melbourne 3.00pm

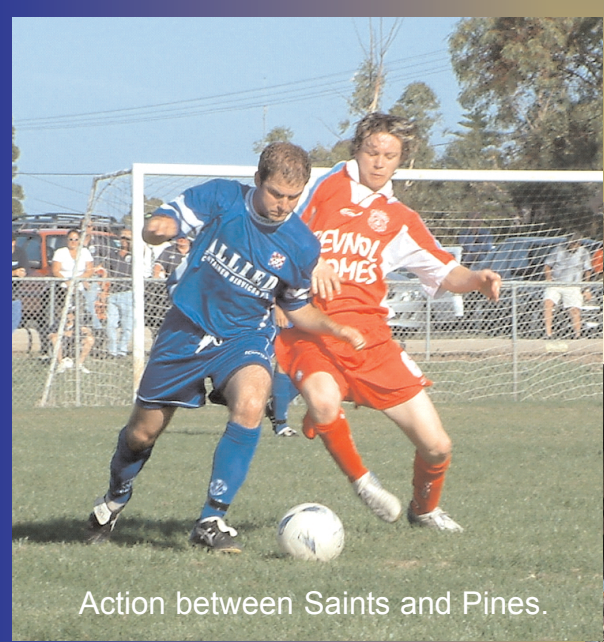
Round Twenty One
12-8-05 Box Hill v Bye
13-8-05 Brimbank v Eastern Lions 1.00pm
13-8-05 Bendigo v BDSA 2.30pm
14-8-05 Cranbourne v Keilor 1.00pm
14-8-05 South Melbourne v Heidelberg 1.00pm
14-8-05 Eltham Nth v Ashburton 3.00pm

Round Twenty Two
21-8-05 Cranbourne v Bye
21-8-05 Eastern Lions v Box Hill 3.00pm
21-8-05 Ashburton v Brimbank 3.00pm
21-8-05 BDSA v Eltham Nth 3.00pm
21-8-05 Bendigo v Heidelberg 3.00pm
21-8-05 Keilor Park v South Melbourne 3.00pm

Vodafone VPL Round 4 Action


Bulleen Zebras v South Melbourne

Preston Lions versus Green Gully Cavaliers


Action between Saints and Pines.

Heidelberg and Oakleigh go head to head.

St Albans Saints v Frankston Pines

A couple of Lions give chase to a Cavalier.

Saints v Pines